





Extraction, dispossession, mobilization: mobilization: mining, territory and politics in contemporary Latin America

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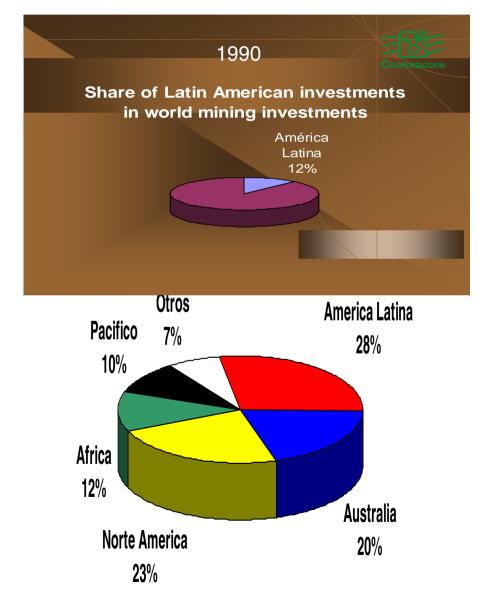
Outline

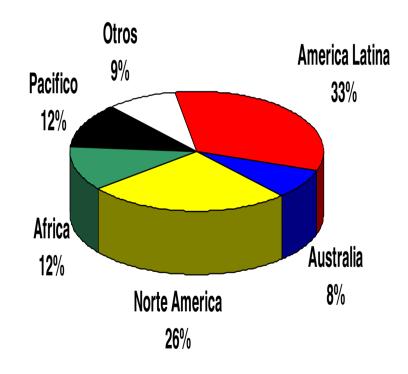
- Context: why worry about mining?
- Mineral expansion, mobilization and conflict

- Mobilization, mining and territorial dynamics
- From territorial conflicts to national political debate

Mining investments, 1990, 1995, 2000

[Source: Cooperacción]





Between 1990-97,

- global investment in mining exploration increased 90%
- in América Latina it increased 400%
- in Perú it increased 2000 % (Banco Mundial, 2005).

Between 1990 y 2001

- 12 of 25 largest mining *investment* projects were in LAC
- Worldwide, of the 10 countries that saw most investment in mining, 4 are in LAC (Chile, 1; Peru, 6; Argentina, 9; Mexico 10: Bridge, 2004)

- A result of
 - Technological and price changes
 - New government policies and institutional arrangements
 - Peru: "the legislation created an extremely attractive investment regime for the large multinational mining companies" (ICMM, 2007)
 - Ecuador: the state has been required to give concessions; concessions can be renewed in perpetuity; no royalty payments

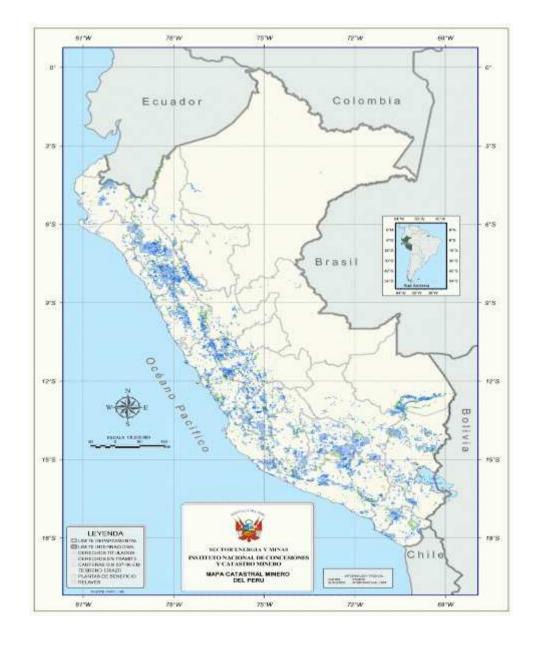
- Consequence 1: Mining/macro-economy interdependencies
 - Extractive industries as strategies for growth and stabilization:
 e.g. Peru
 - 1990-2000, mining investment increases five-fold
 - c. 15% of FDI and 50% of foreign currency generated by exports
 - 2nd most mineral dependent economy in LAC (UNCTAD, 2007)
 - Efforts to build a new mining economy in Ecuador
 - Mining and a post-petroleum economy
 - Mining and the effort to build new fiscal basis for government spending

Consequence 2: Geographies of expansion

This investment is going to traditional areas of extraction, but also to new frontiers with no history of extraction

- Among countries
 - Traditional countries: e.g. Peru, Chile
 - New frontiers: e.g. Ecuador; Central America
- Within countries:
 - e.g. Peru
 - Traditional mining areas (Pasco, Huancavelica, Junin)
 - New mining areas (Piura, Ayacucho, Apurimac)
 - e.g. Bolivia
 - Traditional mining areas (Potosi, Oruro)
 - New areas (e.g. Santa Cruz: Mutun)
 - e.g. Ecuador
 - Traditional areas (small scale mining in S.E.; now large inv)
 - New areas (Cuenca, Cotacachi)
- Between countries
 - e.g. Pascua Lama, Chile-Argentina
 - e.g.(?) Cordillera del Condor, Ecuador-Peru

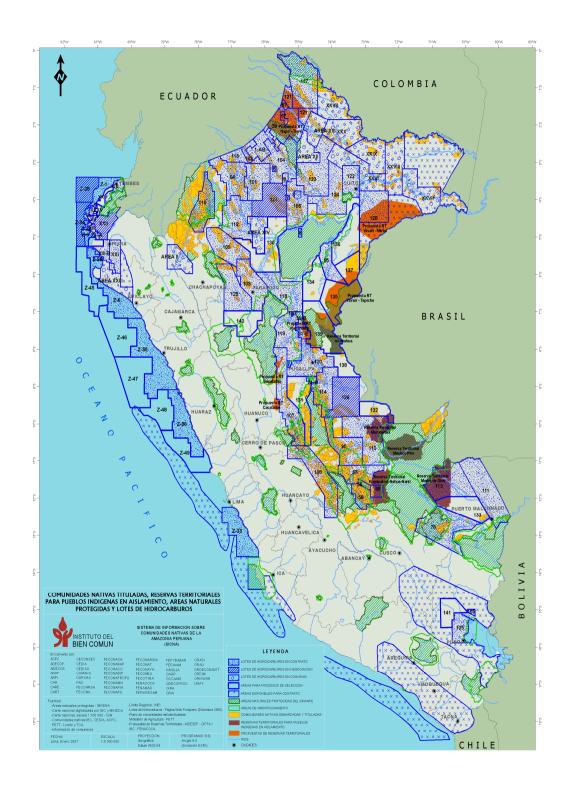
- 1990s: area affected by mining concessions increases from 4 million to 16 million hectares (1997 peak)
- 2002-2007, concessions increased 77.4%: from 7,045,000 ha to 13,224,000 ha
- Around fifty-five per cent (3126) of Peru's six thousand or so campesino (peasant) communities are influenced by mining

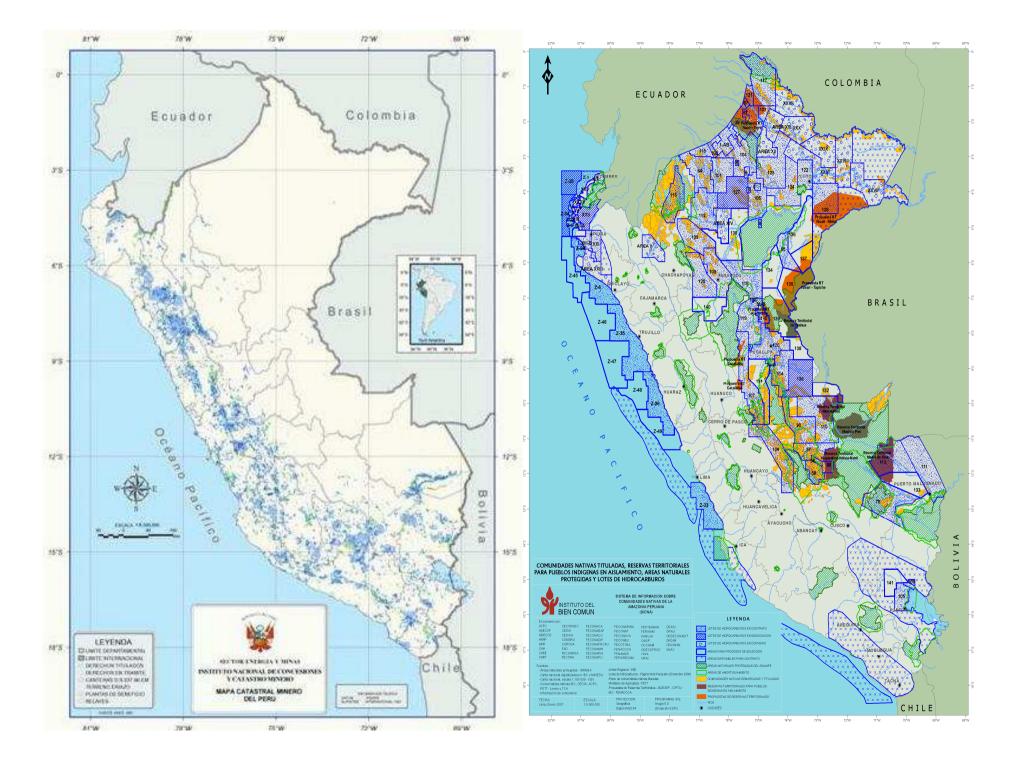


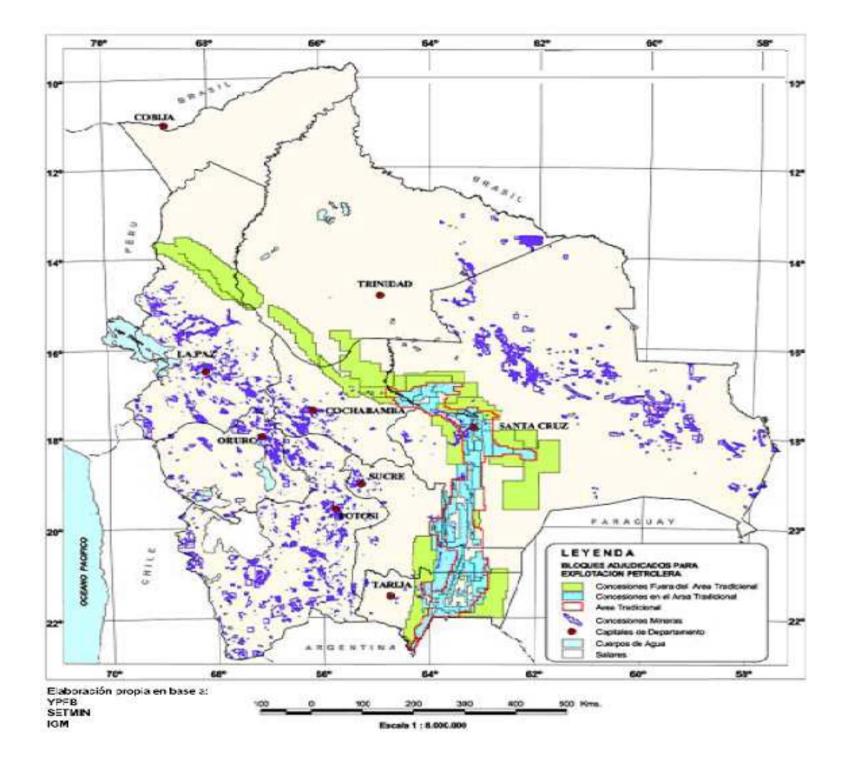
2004 – 2008
 hydrocarbon
 concessions have
 jumped from c. 13 14 % of territory to
 74 %

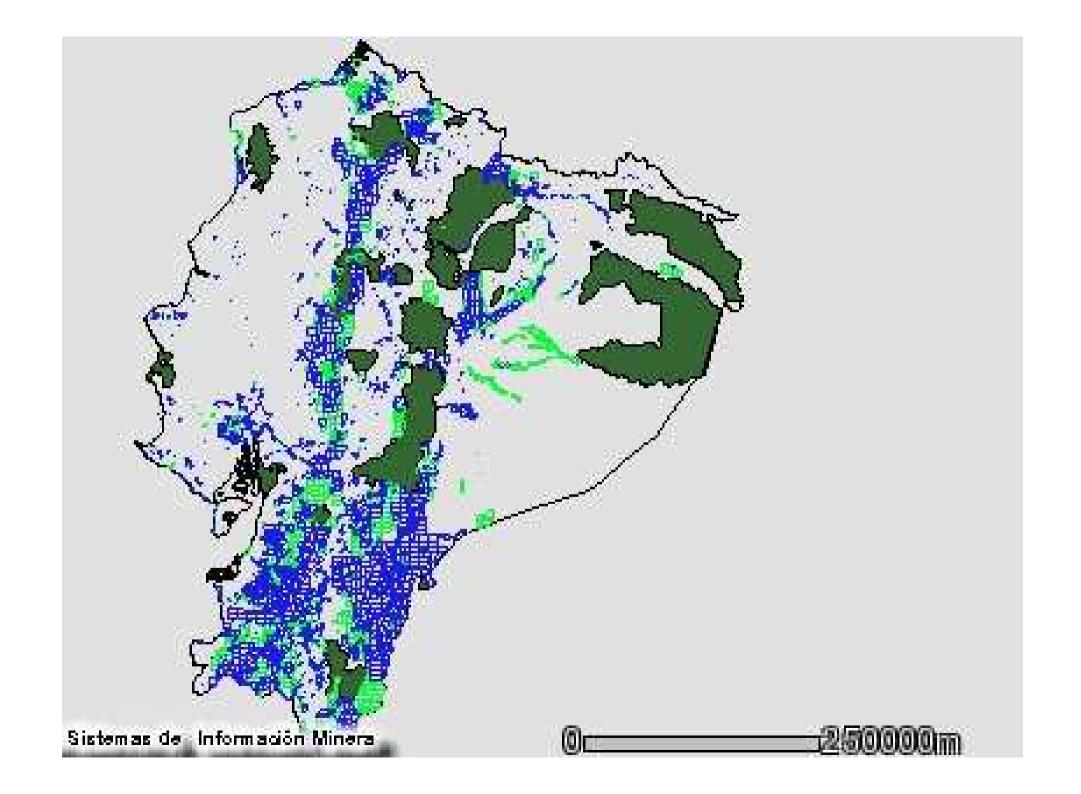
Note overlap with:

- Protected areas
- Indigenous communities
- Reserved land









- Typically, concessioning process has been:
 - Centrally led by Ministries of Energy and Mines
 - Independent of any regional/ecological planning criteria
 - Indeed, active resistance to ecologically based land use planning
 - Not constrained by regional development plans or protected areas (national or municipal)
 - Only marginally subject to consultation

Mineral expansion, mobilization and conflict

Geographies of concession and mobilization

Concessions as geographies of:

- Uncertainty
- Instability
- Risk (perceived, real)
- Threat



Geographies of mines and mobilization

- From geographies of uncertainty to geographies of loss
 - Land, landscape, water
 - Subsoil, value
 - Ways of life
 - Territorial control and familiar forms of governance





- Geographies of loss and modes of accumulation:
 - By exploitation
 - By dispossession
- driving different types of protest?
 - Workplace based protest
 - New social movement protest (land, identity, territory, rights, environment)
- Mining protest movements as:
 - responses to (actual or perceived) accumulation by dispossession
 - responses to new practices of imperialism
 - hybrids of the old, new, borrowed and blue





Caveats

- Dissonances and tensions in movement
 - North/South
 - Class/ethnicity/gender
 - Political ideology
 - Social organization/NGO
 - Power relations within movement
 - Liderazgos



.... and mining also as geographies of gain and sources of countermovement ...









... and as geographies of division ...







Mobilization, mining and territorial dynamics: illustrations from Piura, Peru



MINERÍA, MOVIMIENTOS SOCIALES Y RESPUESTAS CAMPESINAS

Una ecología política de transformaciones territoriales

Anthony Bebbington Editor

Minería y Desarrollo en el Perú con especial referencia al proyecto Río Blanco, Piura



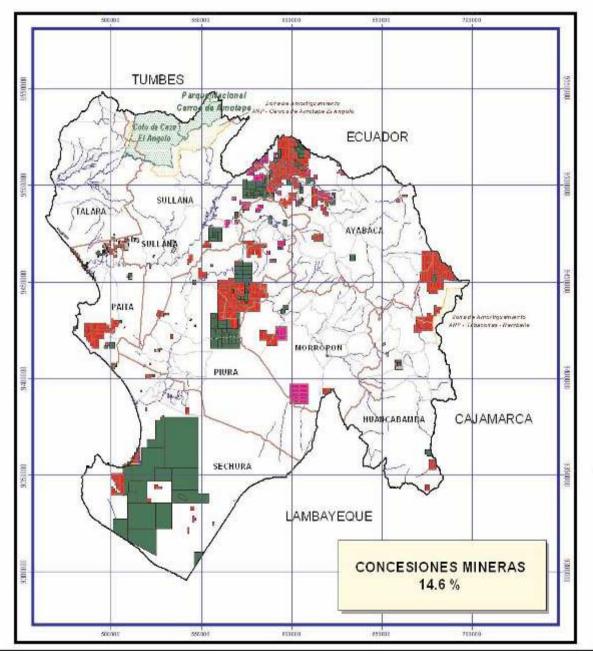








IEP Instituto de Estudios Peruanos









Conflict and territorial dynamics

- Option 1: mineral Piura
 - Increased tax transfers/municipal income
 - Social change
 - Environmental risk
 - Within region redistribution issues
- Option 2: agrarian Piura
 - Slow agrarian growth
 - Creeping agricultural frontier
 - Limited changes in risk (real, perceived)
 - Incremental socio-cultural change

From territorial conflict to national political debate

Peru and Ecuador

Peru: towards authoritarian modernization?

- Alan Garcia: frontal attack on those questioning current forms of mining expansion
 - Rio Blanco/Monterrico as the lightening rod
 - "False prophets," red priests and "outdated ideologies"
 - Change from campaign commitments
- Commitments to companies
 - Tax stability agreements
 - 20 projects in the national interest
 - Late 2007 statements by Garcia "mining throughout the land"

Alan Garcia in El Comercio: 28/10/07

The problem:

- "There are millions of hectares for timber lying idle, millions more that communities and peasant associations have not cultivated and will never cultivate, in addition to hundreds of mineral deposits that can't be worked and millions of hectares of sea which will never be made productive nor used for mariculture"
- ".. the old anticapitalist communists of the 19th century disguised themselves as protectionists in the 20th century and have once again changed their teeshirts in the 21st century to become environmentalists"

Agriculture:

- "we've been fooled into giving small lots of land to poor families who don't have a penny to invest"
- "That same land, if sold in large plots, would attract technology from which the community members would also benefit, but the ideological spider's web of the 19th century continues to be an obstacle."

Amazonia – forestry and hydrocarbons:

- "formal property for large corporate enterprises like pension funds would allow us to make long term investments, beginning from the initial planting through to harvest many years later"
- "And against oil, they have created the image of the 'non-contact' jungle native"

Mining

- "barely a tenth of those (mineral) resources are being exploited, because here we are still discussing whether mining technology destroys the environment, which was only an issue last century
-today mines coexist with cities without any problems, or at least this is the case when the state demands strict technological standards of mining companies, and negotiates a greater share of profits and employment possibilities for the departments in which the mines operate"

A modern hacienda based model of development? (Eguren)

- Re-concentrate land and resources
- Development to be delivered by large property, technology and foreign capital
- Territory to be governed more efficiently by large property owners
- Large scale capital plus a strong state = well regulated development

Issues emerging

- Ambiguous attitudes to ethnic difference?
- A sense of rights being bestowed by efficiency more than citizenship?
- An optimistic conception of state capacity?
- Attitudes to dissent: frustration or intolerance?

Ecuador: towards what ...?

 Mining expansion and spreading (and radical) mobilization

 Correa 2007: country on the brink of open conflict

 The search for new forms of governing the sector: convergence/divergence in the state?

Ministry – more pro-mining

- Failed moratorium
- Suspension of 500+ concessions ... but ..?
- Possible regionalization of mining

Constituent Assembly - more cautious, considering

- Ban on open cast mining
- Constitutional changes to limit options
- On-going lobbying of Assembly members

President Correa – more pro-mining

- Mining and fiscal income
- Centralizing tendencies (tax transfer implications?)
- State mining company?
- Authoritarian use of force

Final resolution will be conflictive

Final words

Movements influence:

- Local and national debates on the meanings of development and environment
- Local and national debates on the meanings of land and resources: should land be
 - Mineral source, water source, identity source, territory.....
 - Private, communal, regional, national
- Swings between democracy deepening and authoritarianism
- Patterns of territorial and environmental change

- Territories are transformed at intersection of investment and protest
- Final outcomes depend on:
 - Relationships of power among (and within) state, market and societal actors interested in these resources
 - Relative power of actors depends on:
 - Actor's relative internal cohesion
 - Relative policy/political coherence of its proposals for rural resource use
 - Ability to build and sustain networks at different scales
 - Local government

- Learning and linkages among communities and activists across the region
 - Information and exchanges
 - The spread of referenda on mining
- Processes of expansion, accumulation and conflict in the region as inter-linked
 - > By activist networks
 - > By economic processes and their own networks
 - > By regional political economic projects





Colombia ...

- Uribe, speech to open Agroexpo, 2007
 - Sea la oportunidad de repetir ante ustedes que Colombia es un país totalmente garantista de la inversión privada, con la exigencia de la responsabilidad social.
 - Para nosotros es muy importante un Estado como garante de responsabilidad social, una garantía de plenas posibilidades al sector privado como camino hacia la responsabilidad social.
 - Esa confianza inversionista la sustentamos en varios puntos: primero, en nuestro modelo: un Estado garantista a la inversión privada. Segundo, en la política de seguridad, que es más importante medirla por la determinación que por los resultados de corto plazo. Tercero, por las políticas económicas. Salud fiscal de la Nación y políticas sectoriales.
 - De 2002 a 2006 introdujimos una serie de incentivos: la exención a la madera, en lo cual el país tiene tantísimas posibilidades. A mí me da tristeza que cuando nosotros en especies demandadas en el mercado, podemos producir 25 metros cúbicos de madera por hectárea año, apenas estamos llegando a 250 mil hectáreas de bosque comercial.

EL TIEMPO

- Carimagua 17 mil hectáreas, ubicadas en Puerto Gaitán(Meta), para 800 familias de desplazados
- Feb 2008: Carimagua será entregada en 9 días y por 50 años a empresarios para la siembra de caucho, madera o palma a cambio de una retribución económica para el Estado