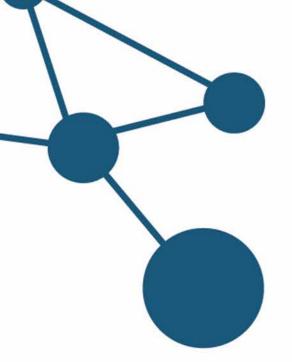


Tropical Andean glaciers

- The Andes are home of 99% of the world's tropical glaciers.
- The largest fraction, 71%, is located in Peru.
- Peru's glaciers are concentrated mainly in the Cordillera Blanca.
- Glacial runoff provides water for drinking, agriculture, hydroelectricity and industry.

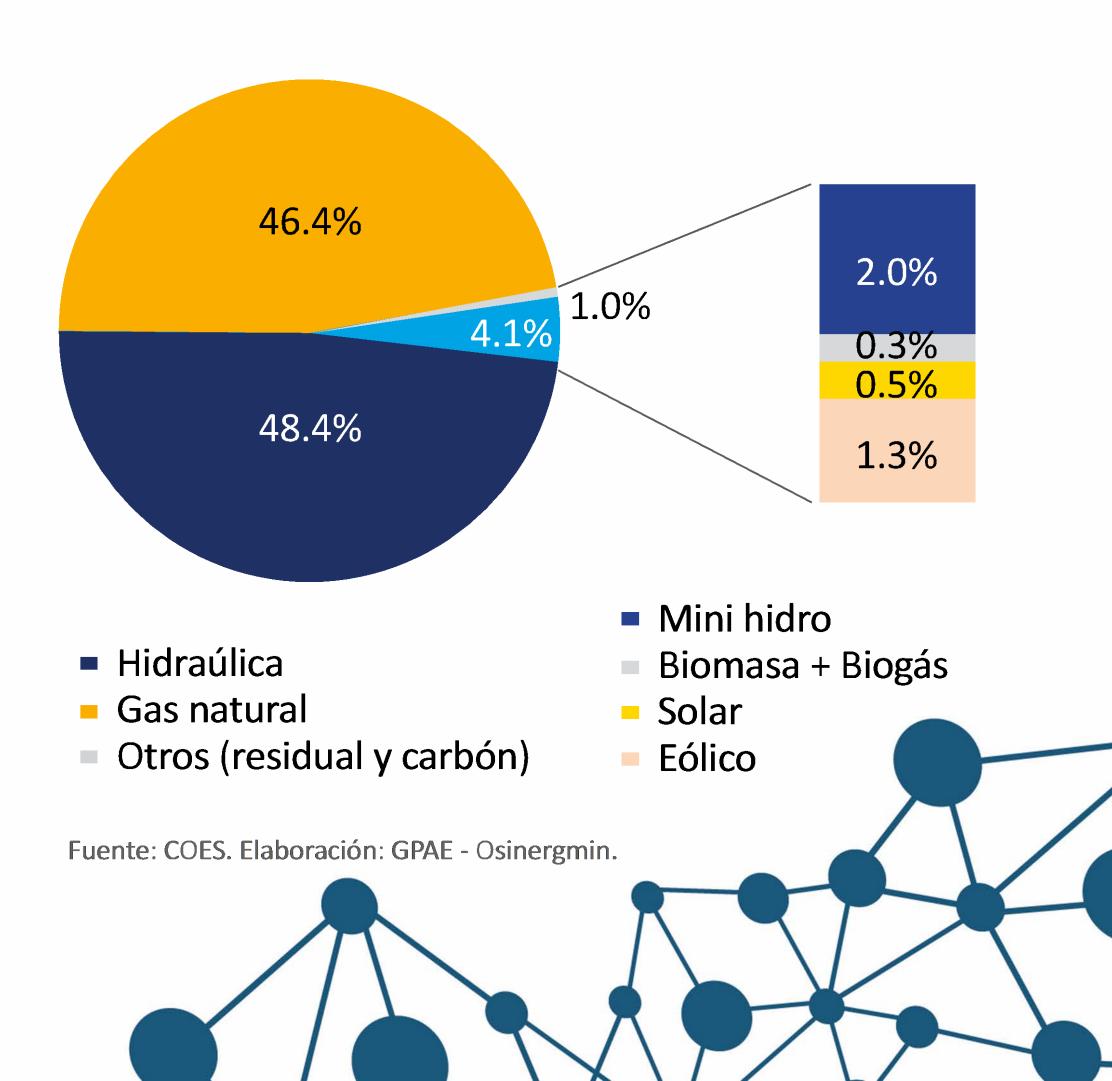


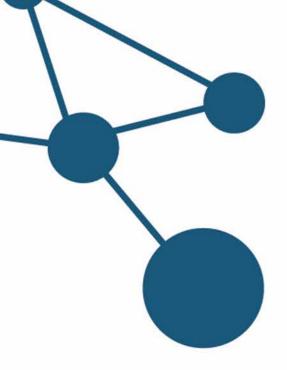
Source: MINAM



Importance of Peruvian glaciers

- Source of water for the Andes during dry season.
- Source of water for the coast, characterized by a desert climate and low rainfall.
- Source of energy provided from hydroelectric power reliant on glacial runoff water.





Current state of Peruvian glaciers

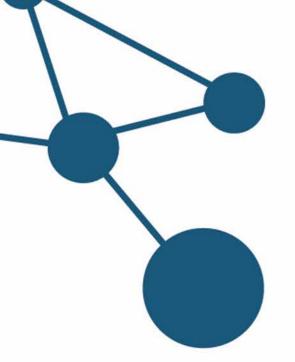
Glaciar Broggi - CORDILLERA BLANCA - 4860 m.s.n.m. (1932 -2003)



Glaciar Yanamarey - CORDILLERA BLANCA - 4890 m.s.n.m. (1982 -2005)

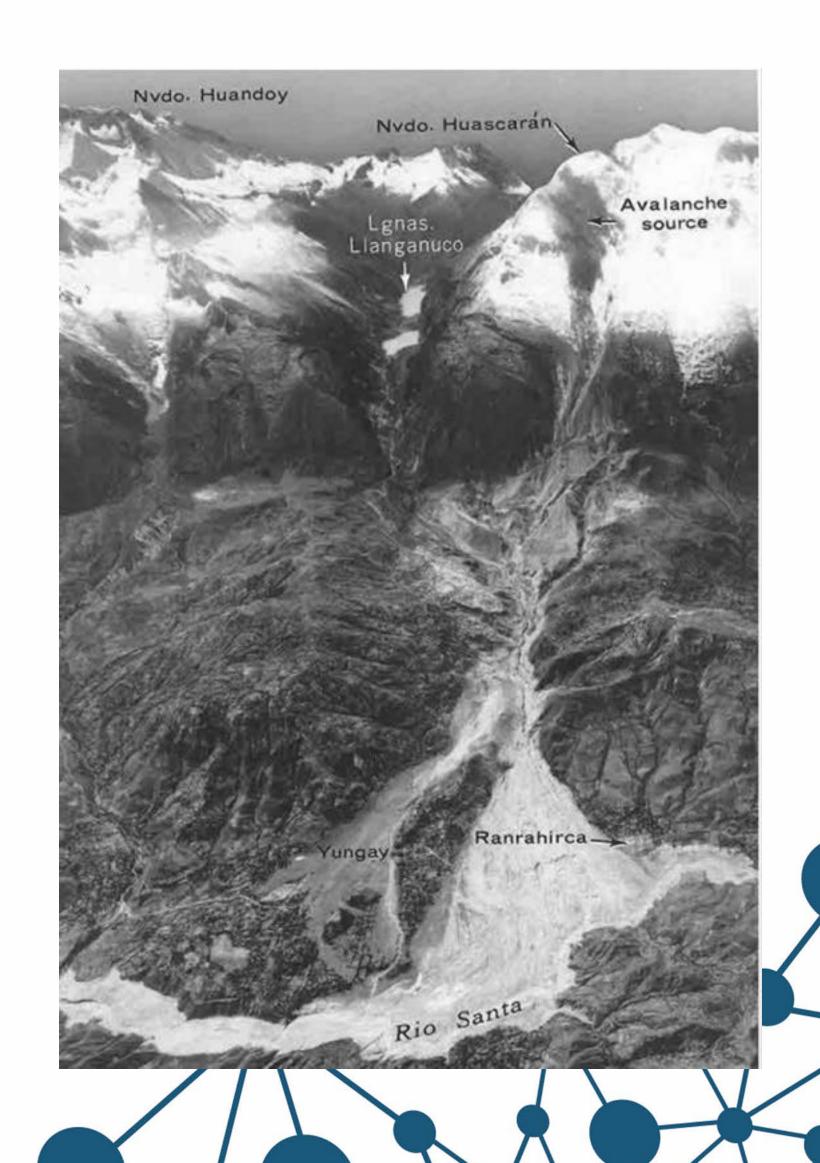


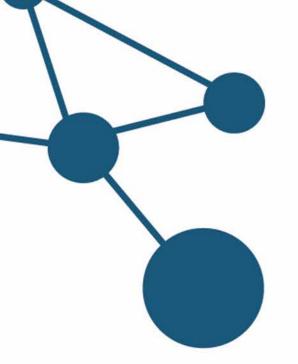
Source: Rabatel et al. 2013 Source: INRENA



Relationship with natural hazards

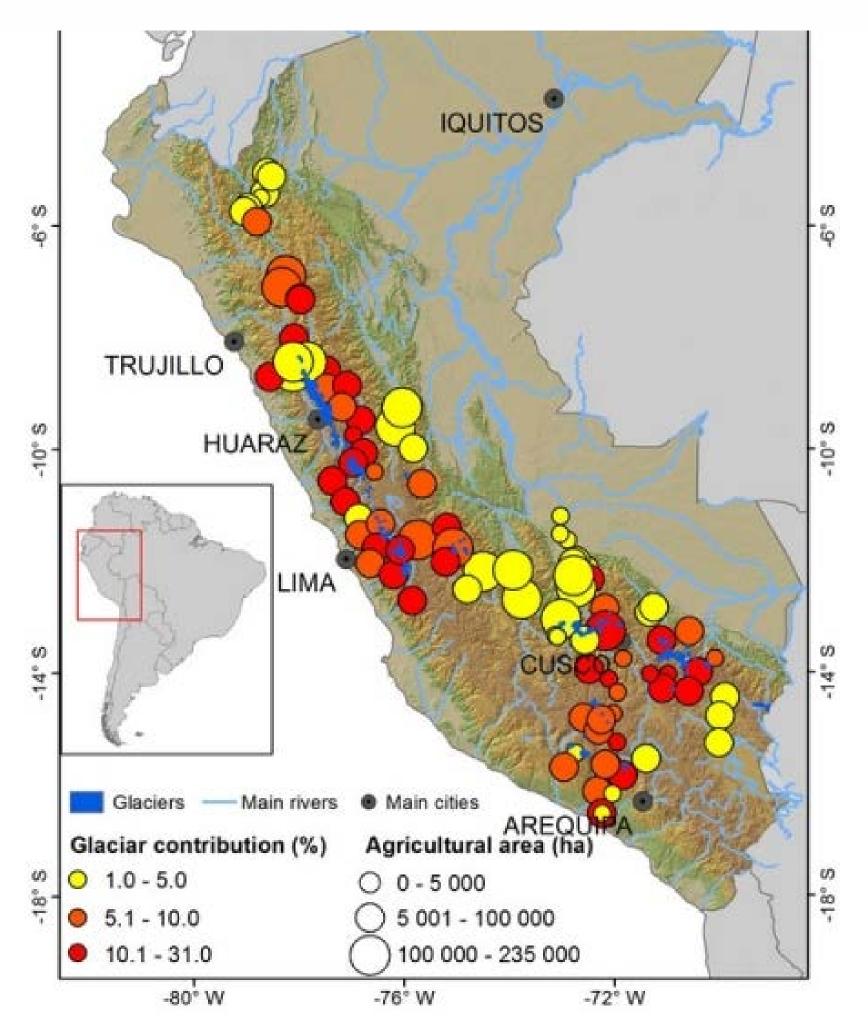
- Large detached sections of glaciers can cause huge avalanches:
 - In 1970, after a massive earthquake, an avalanche killed thousands.
- Glacial lakes during the melt season can overflow and cause floods.
 - ➤ Between 1941 and 1950, three floods killed about 6000 people.



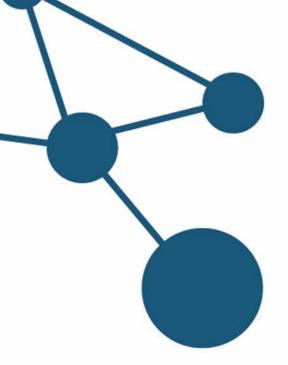


Glacier melt and water security

- Exposure of heavy metals increases their concentration in the meltwater.
- Current research focuses on the use of essential wetlands that retain heavy metals as part of the natural hydrologic system.
- Contribution of glaciers to river flow will diminish as they shrink, affecting human populations and economic activities.



Source: Gratham Institute, Imperial College London



Future challenges

- Water availability and conflicts over water usage (energy, drinking water, agriculture, mining).
- Adaptation and mitigation measures with scientific evidence.
- Changes and resilience of the ecosystems associated to glaciers.



Source: Proyecto Chavimochic. Exitosa

Thank you

