# Why are we here?

- Our understanding on Andes hydroclimatology has substantially advanced in the last decades along with an increase in the number of researchers. Nonetheless, the research has mostly focused in specific regions and suffered from a substantial lack of coherent regional integral perspective and a lack of relevant *in-situ* observations.
- New research topics have also emerged (high impact events, precipitation hotspots, climate change impacts, among others) as well as the urgent need to link our physical scientific understanding with an ample array of societal needs (e.g., water, food security, human health and disasters).
- In this context, ANDEX is proposed as a GEWEX Regional Hydroclimate Project (RHP) aiming at understanding, modelling and predicting the dynamics of the water and energy cycles over the Andes cordillera, at a wide range of temporal and spatial scales, and their linkages with the surrounding oceans, land surface and major river basins.
- Four science themes: (a) climate patterns and drivers, (b) climate and environmental changes, (c) high impact events, and (d) Andean cryosphere. We also considered two cross-cutting themes: (i) observations, data and modeling, and (ii) Science underpinning sustainable development.

# Why are we here?

- \* Also, the proposed agenda will further the scientific development in South America through:
- (i) fostering regional cooperation among researchers and research programs
- (ii) establishing a **focused research agenda** on fundamental issues of the Andes region main interests
- (iii) creating the scientific framework to help decision making processes for the sustainable development of a highly environmentally and biogeophysically threatened region
- (iv) connecting the Andean region with global and regional initiatives.
- \* A "white paper" addressing these issues will be prepared during the first semester of 2018, emphasizing in each case actions and challenges to bridge the current gaps in knowledge and applications. The ANDEX white paper will serve a basis for a Science and Implementation Plan that should be developed after a second ANDEX meeting to be held in Santiago, Chile, in October 2018.

# **ANDES White Book**

#### **Chapter 0. Geographical context**

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#### **Chapter 1.The hydroclimate of the Andes**

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### **Chapter 7. Actions and challenges**

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