Perth III: Mountains of Our Future Earth
An international conference in Perth, Scotland
4-8 October 2015

# Repeat photography of Bolivian glaciers – a first step towards a glacier photo archive

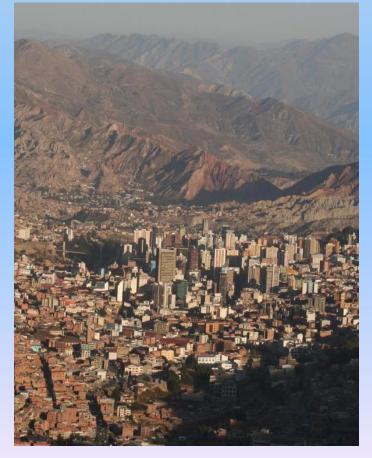


Dirk Hoffmann, Bolivian Mountain Insitute - BMI

### Climate change is happening

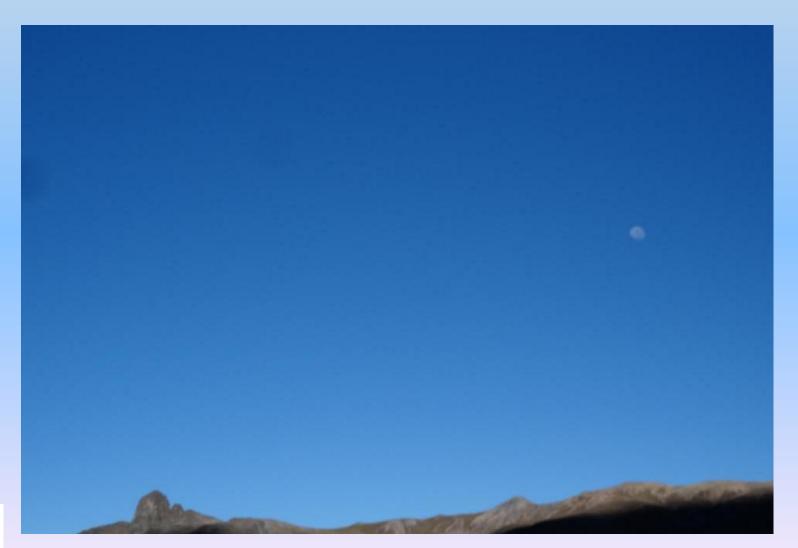
 Since AR4 and AR5 there is no more doubt about anthropogenic climate change.

But changes in the Earth's energy balance, in the composition of the atmosphere, and the rise of global average temperatures are difficult to communicate to wider audiences.



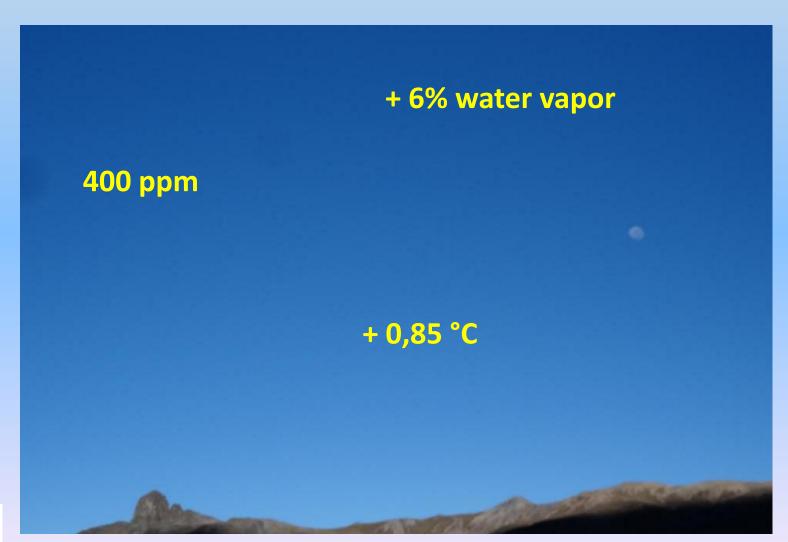


## Difficulties of communication global warming





### This is what global warming looks like





### Visualizing the impacts of climate change

- Glaciers serve as "thermometers" of past temperature changes (ice cores).
- Glaciers are the most visible sign of global warming.





Foto: T. Jenk

### **Bolivian glaciers**

- **20%** of the world's tropical glaciers.
- 566 km² (Jordan, 1980s)
- Have lost 50% of area and volume in past 40 years.
- "Species in danger of extinction"





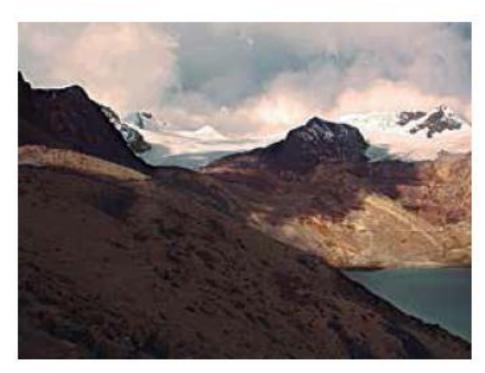
# Repeat photography project: 12 Testimonies of climate change





# II. San Enrique, atractivo pero distante...







# V. Picacho Kasiri, en puertas del "Camino de la muerte"

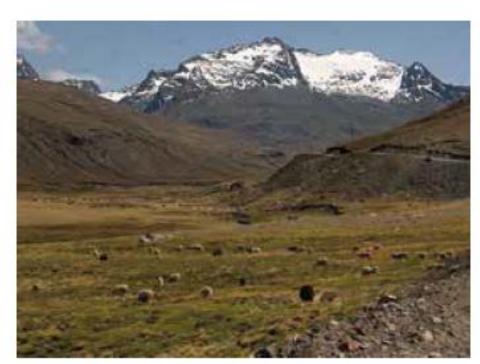






# V. Wila Manquilisani, origen del río Choqueyapu







# VI. Chacaltaya, primero en encender la luz de alarma







# VII. Chiar Kherini, un rostro desconocido del Chacaltaya







# VIII. ZONGO, el más investigado en los Andes tropicales













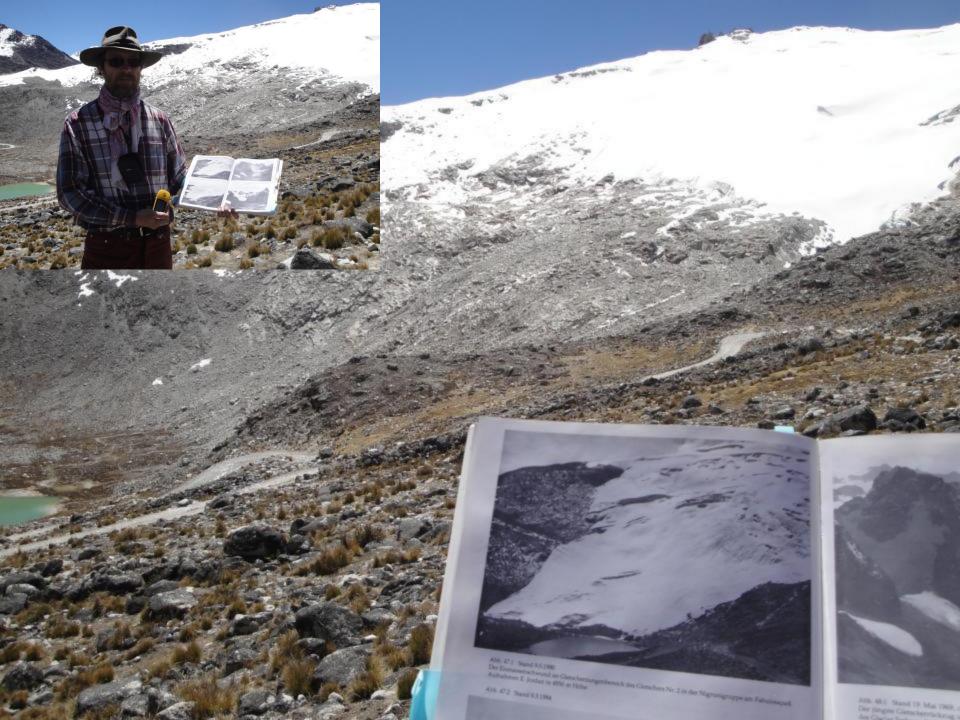


# XI. Wila Llojeta, glaciar adoptivo de Ekkehard Jordan









# XII. CUIN Thojo y la laguna Moro Khala, una nueva relación glaciar



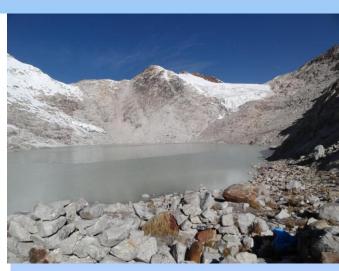




# Culin Thojo – update 2015







2007 2014 2015



# Opening of the exhibition











### Awareness raising about climate change

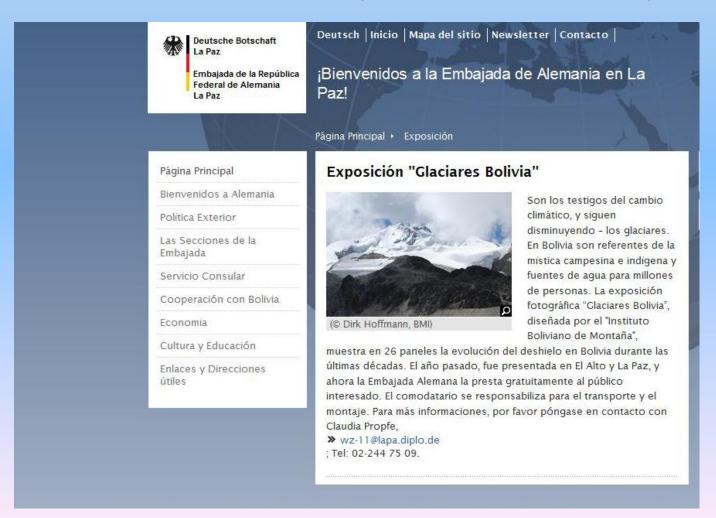
 Many young people and school children visited the exhibition





## **Environmental education**

 There is continuing interest by schools, universities and NGOs, also from other parts of the country.



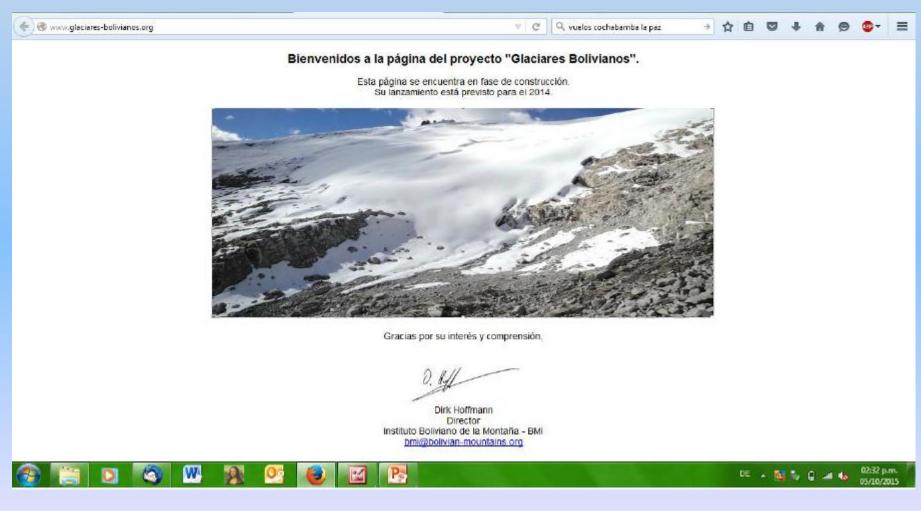


### Lessons learnt and looking ahead

- For a large part of Bolivia, glaciers symbolize global warming and climate change.
- The "El Niño" of 2015/16 spells desaster for the glaciers, but offers an opportunity for repeat photography without snow.
- Some images will be used by local government in an open air photo exhibition in La Paz prior to the COP 21 in Paris.



### **Next step: Bolivian Glacier Archive**

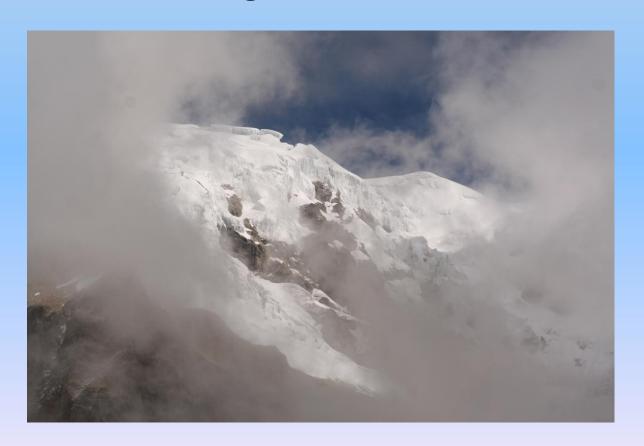




www.glaciares-bolivia.org

### What we are looking for

- Historic photos of Bolivian glaciers
- New ideas for funding





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# Thank you for your attention! de la República Federal de Alemania