

# Large Scale PV: The Chilean Experience

INTERSOLAR | SOUTH AMERICA  
SAO PAULO, BRAZIL, AUGUST 2016

Fraunhofer Chile Research – Center for Solar Energy Technology | FCR-CSET



August 24, 2016

---

# LARGE SCALE PV: THE CHILEAN EXPERIENCE

---

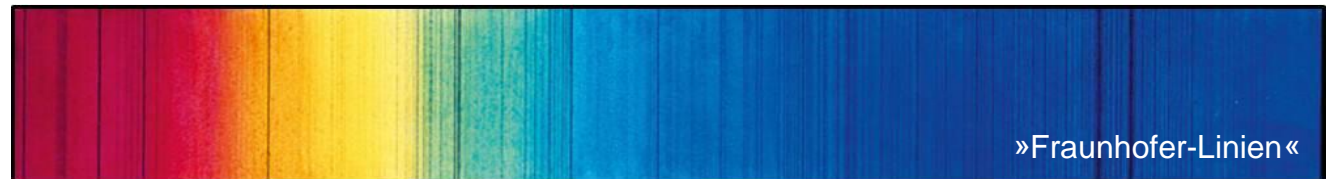
- Fraunhofer : General Introduction
- Electrical Market in Chile
- Evolution of Large Scale Solar PV in Chile
- Analysis of the Chilean Experience: Opportunities and Challenges
- How are we facing this challenges
- Long term view



# The Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft

## Largest Organization for Applied Research in Europe

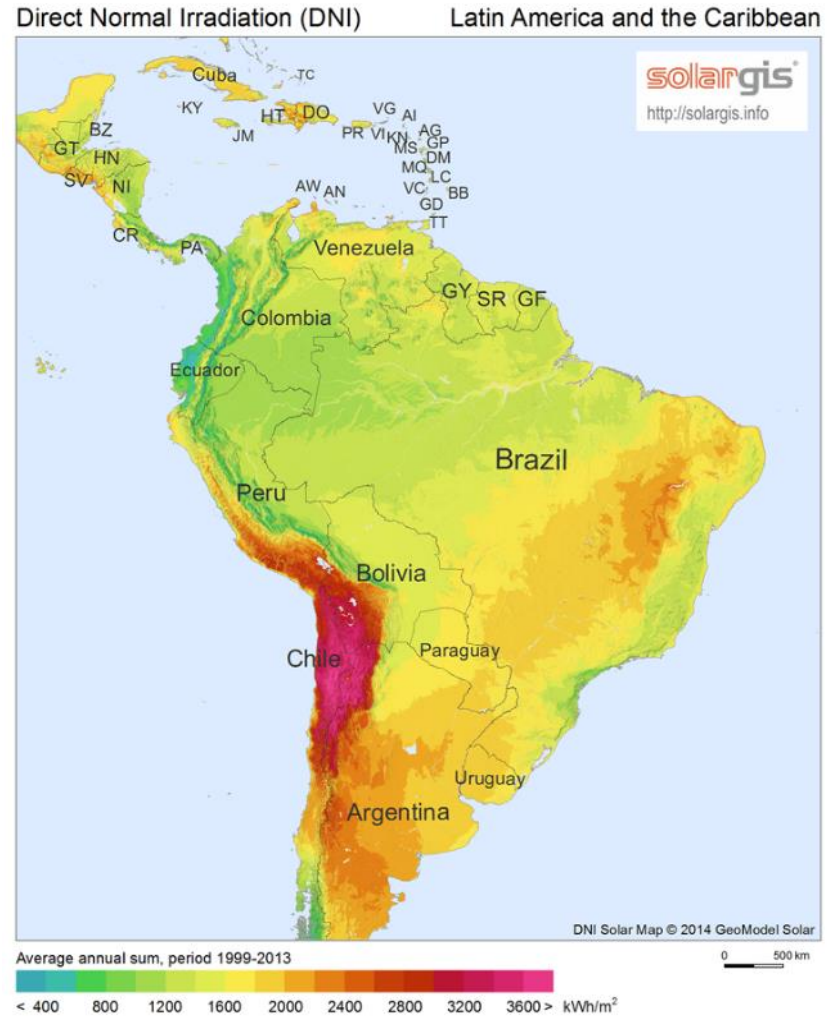
- 67 institutes and research units / Based in Germany
- Staff of more than 23,000
- €2 billion annual research budget totaling
  - Roughly two thirds of this sum is generated through contract research on behalf of industry and publicly funded research projects
  - Roughly one third is contributed by the German federal and state governments in the form of base funding
- International co-operations
- In Chile since 2010 (Biotechnology Center)
- Fraunhofer CSET – Solar Energy Center – In operation since Feb 2015
  - Pontificia Universidad Catolica de Chile: Coexecutor
  - Project co-funded by the Chilean Government



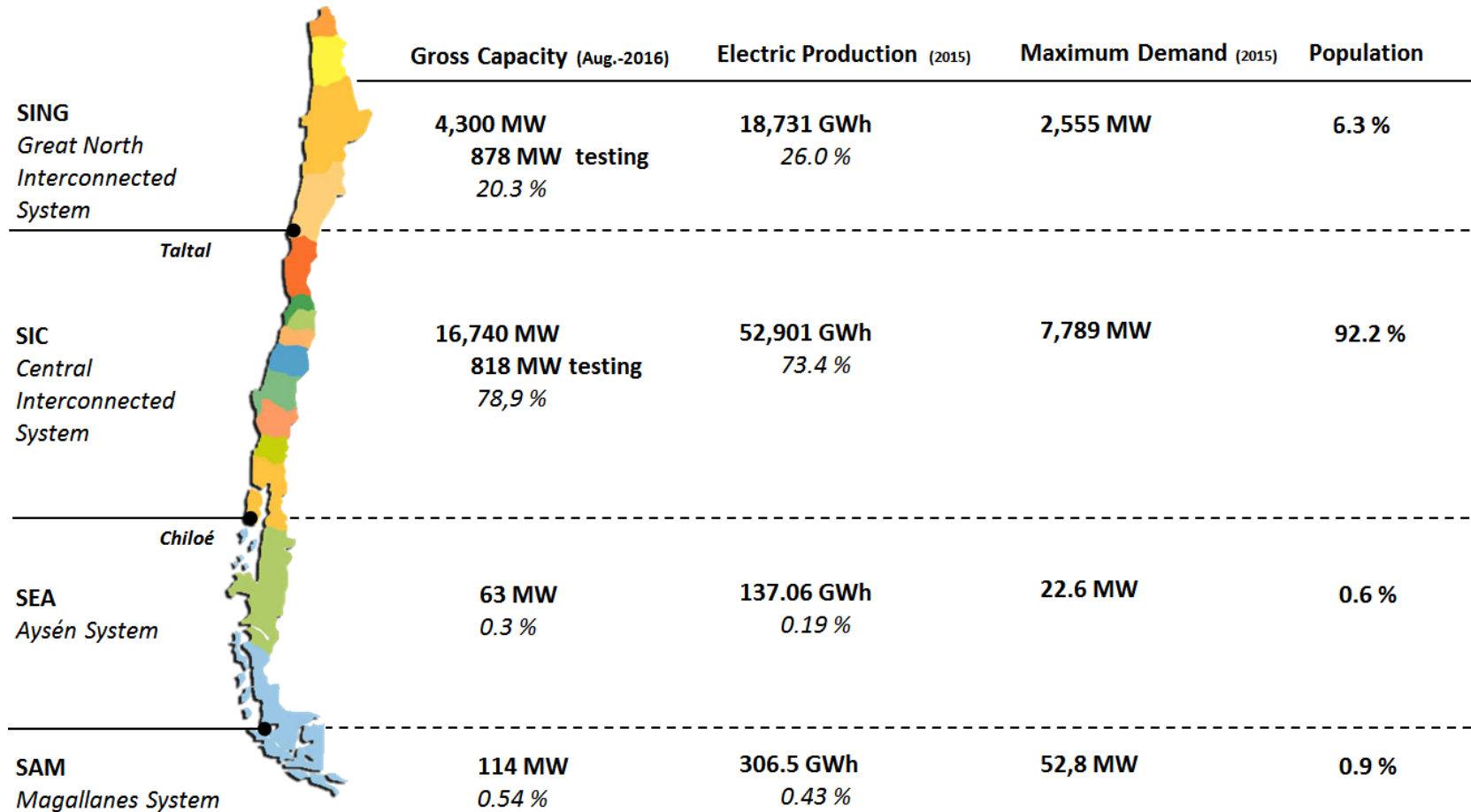
# SOLAR ENERGY IN CHILE

## Enormous potential – high challenges

- Up to 3.400 kWh/m<sup>2</sup> global horizontal irradiation per year
- North of Chile has the potential to supply all of Chile with clean solar electricity + even export electricity to neighboring countries
- Challenges: high UV, high temperature gradients, dust, salts, water scarcity,...
- Grid integration: Electricity storage and transport technologies will be important
- R&D on „high radiation solar“ needed  
→ opportunity for Chile
- Increase local contents, local jobs
- Reduce costs



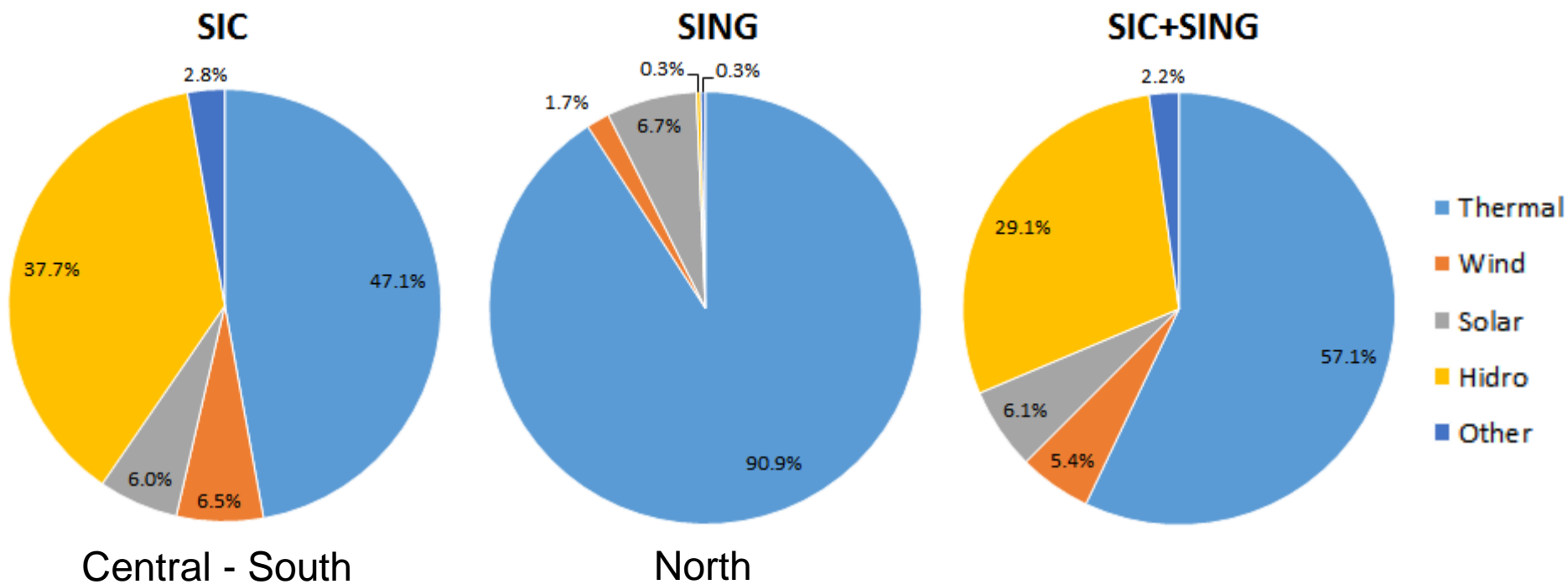
# SOLAR ENERGY IN CHILE: CHILE'S MAIN POWER SYSTEMS



Elaboración propia. Fuente: CNE, CDECs



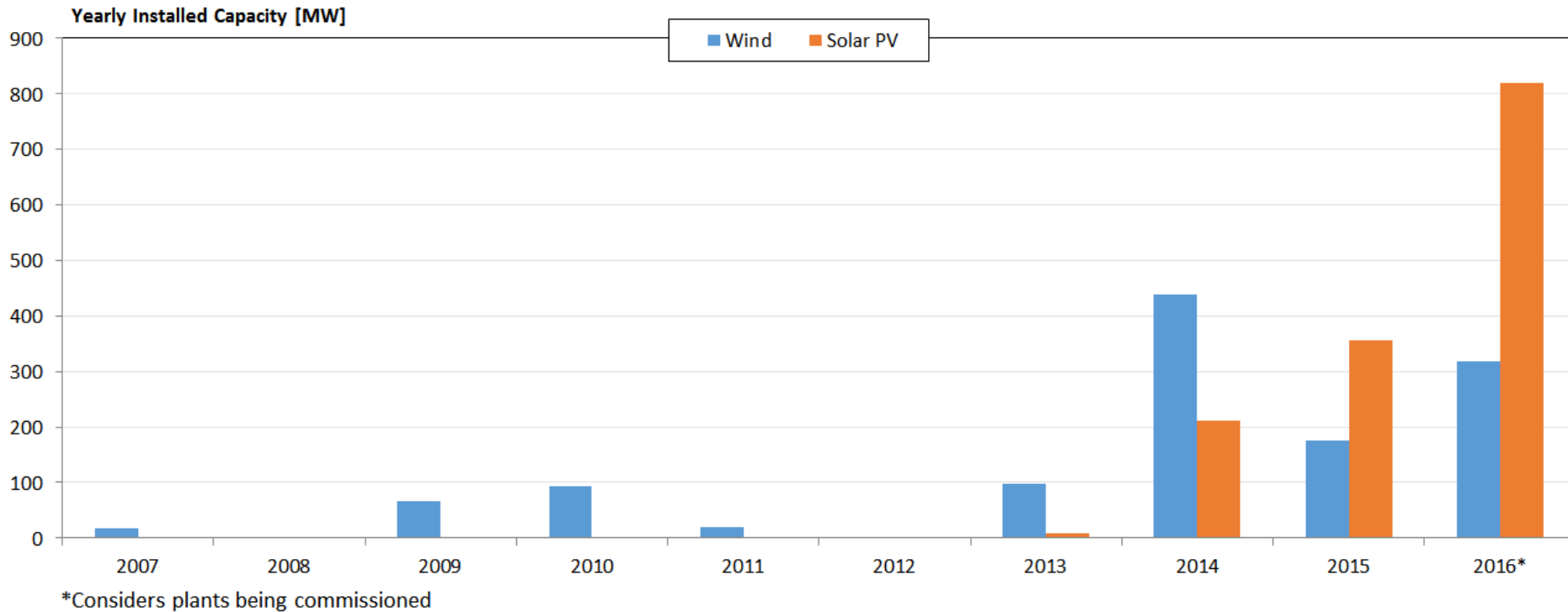
# SOLAR ENERGY IN CHILE: ENERGY MATRIX COMPOSITION (CAPACITY)



Elaboración propia. Fuente: CNE, CDECs. Febrero 2016



# RENEWABLE ENERGY IN CHILE: RENEWABLE INSTALLED CAPACITY DEPLOYMENT IN CHILE

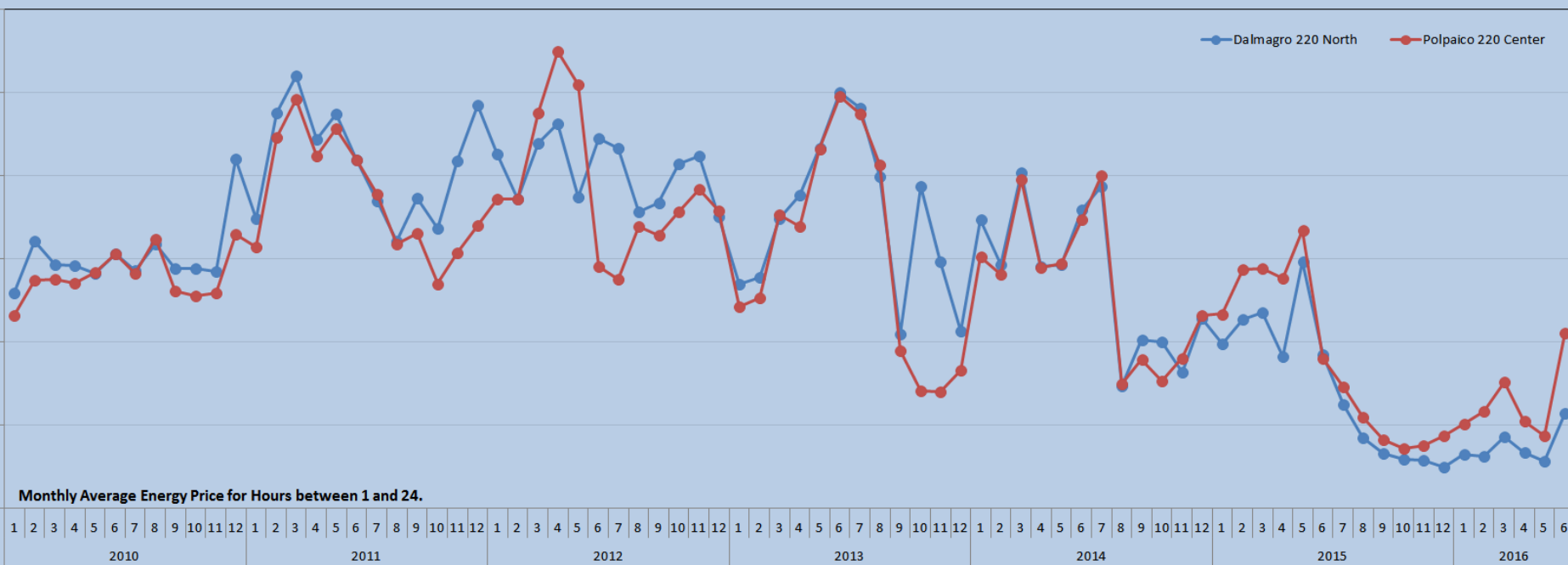


Elaboración propia: Fuente CNE,  
CDEC-SIC y Licitaciones Eléctricas.



# SOLAR ENERGY IN CHILE: SPOT MARKET ENERGY PRICE EVOLUTION

Locational Marginal Price of Energy [US/MWh]



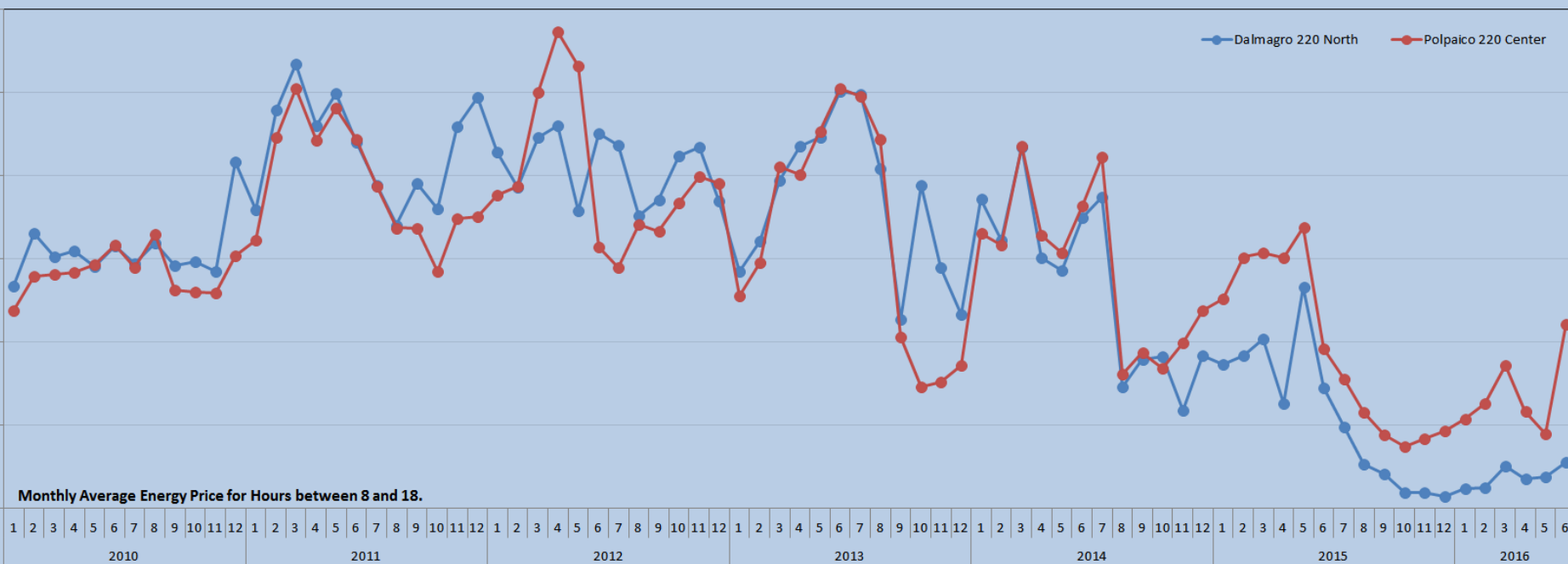
Elaboración propia: Fuente CDEC-SIC.





# SOLAR ENERGY IN CHILE: SPOT MARKET ENERGY PRICE EVOLUTION

Locational Marginal Price of Energy [US/MWh]

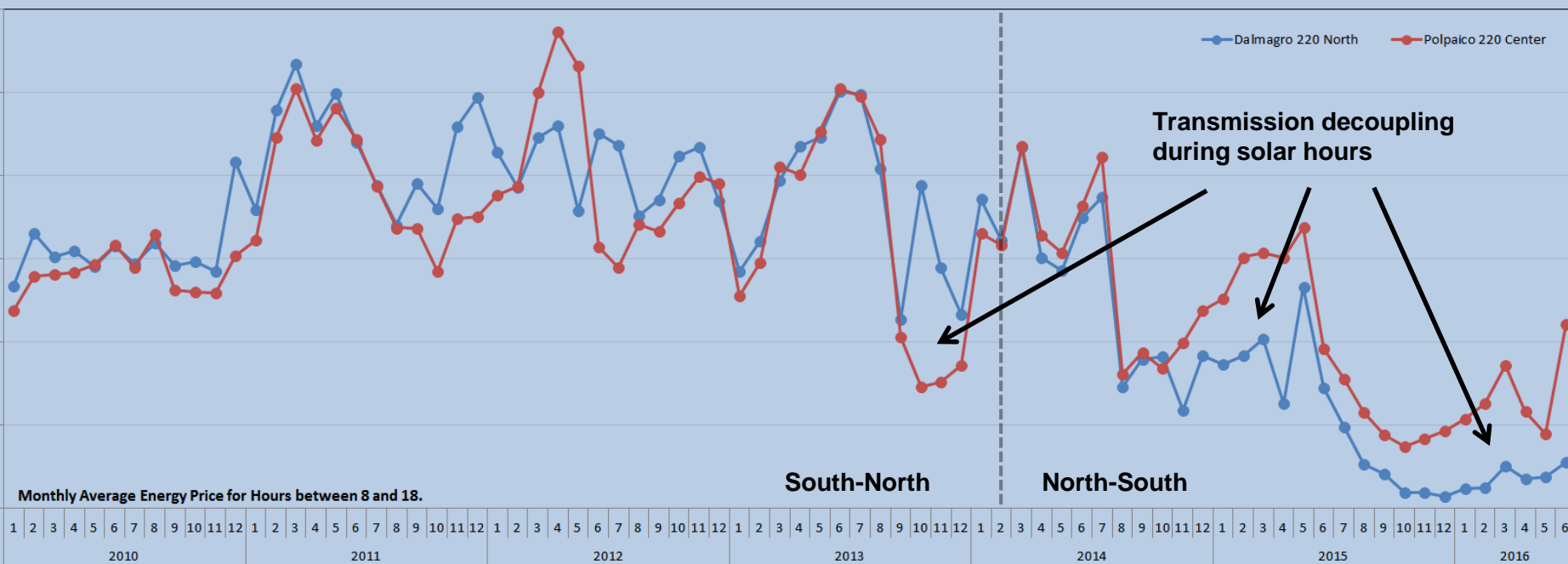


Elaboración propia: Fuente CDEC-SIC.



# SOLAR ENERGY IN CHILE: SPOT MARKET ENERGY PRICE EVOLUTION

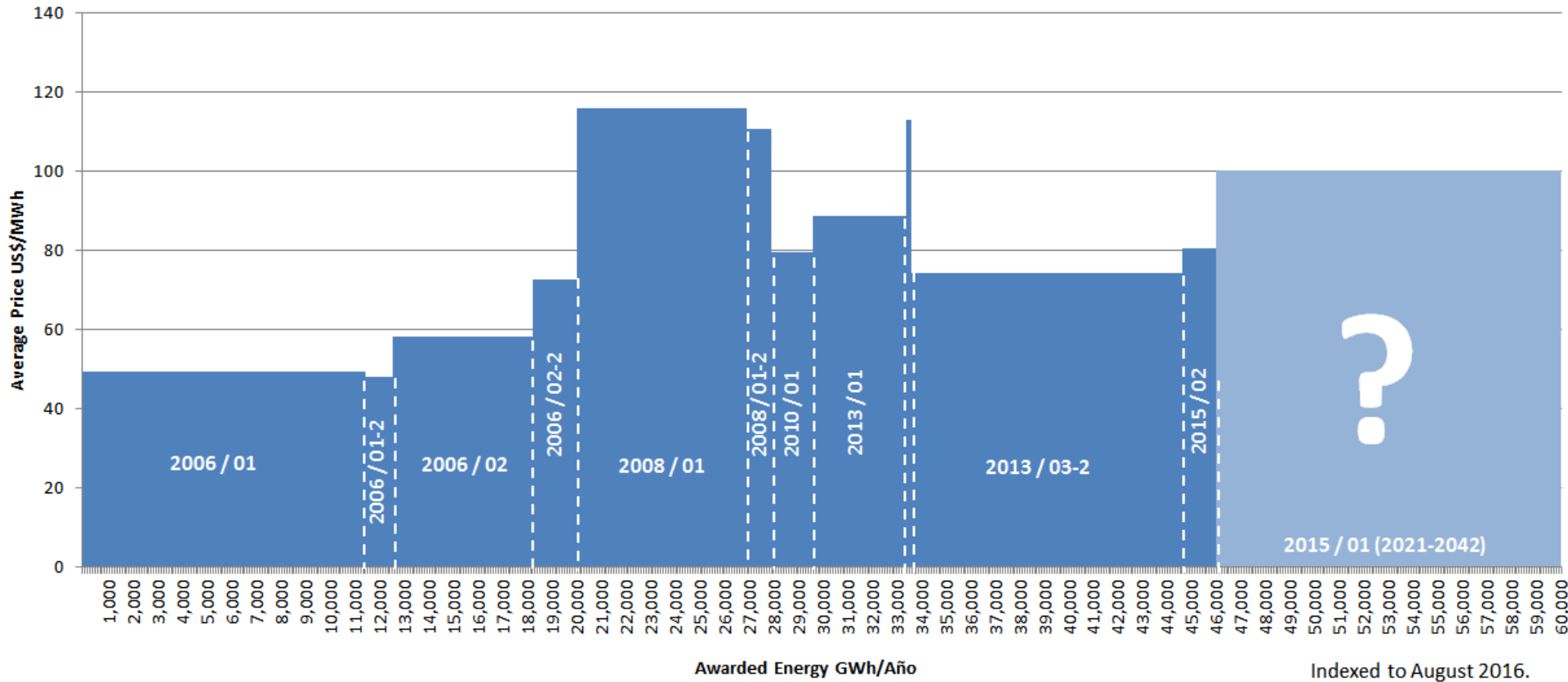
Locational Marginal Price of Energy [US/MWh]



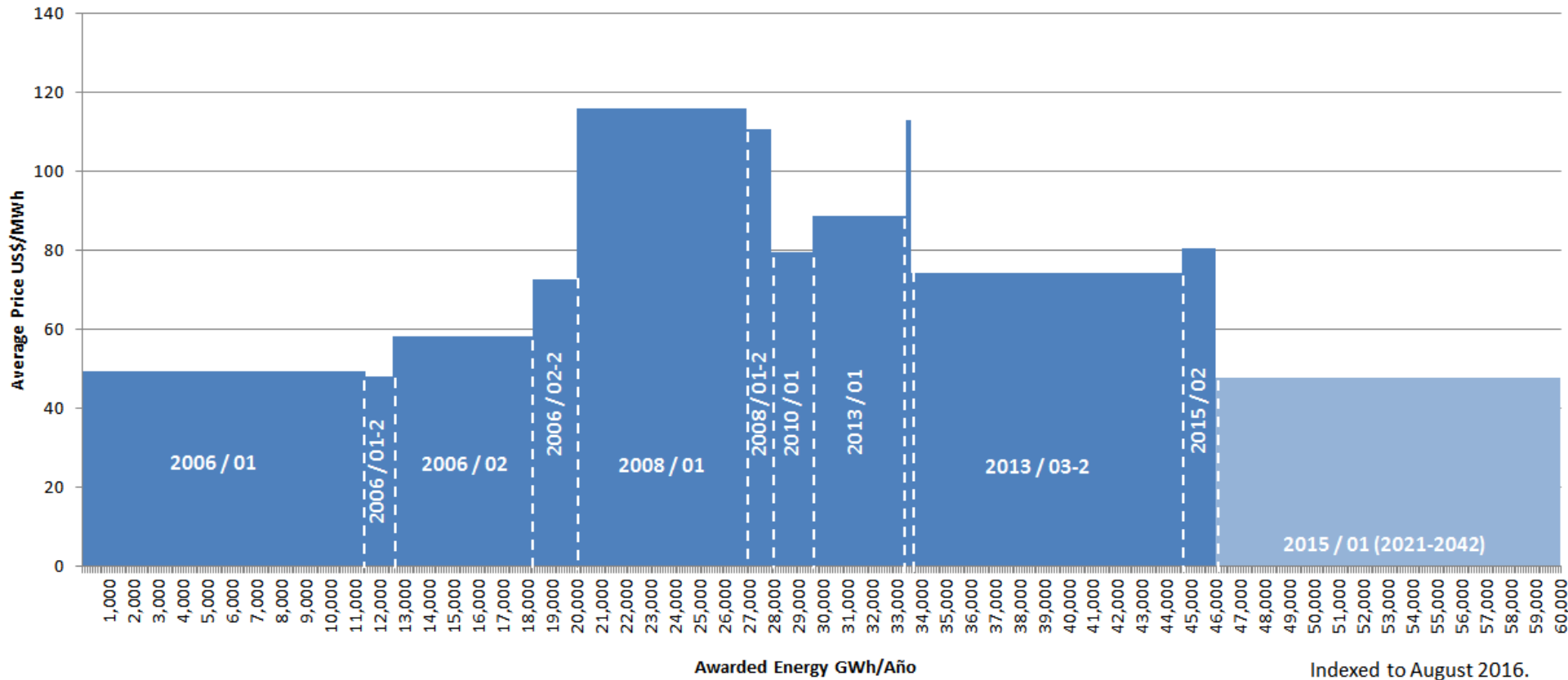
Elaboración propia: Fuente CDEC-SIC.



# LAST ENERGY AUCTIONS IN CHILE



# LAST ENERGY AUCTIONS IN CHILE



Indexed to August 2016.



LAST

PHILE

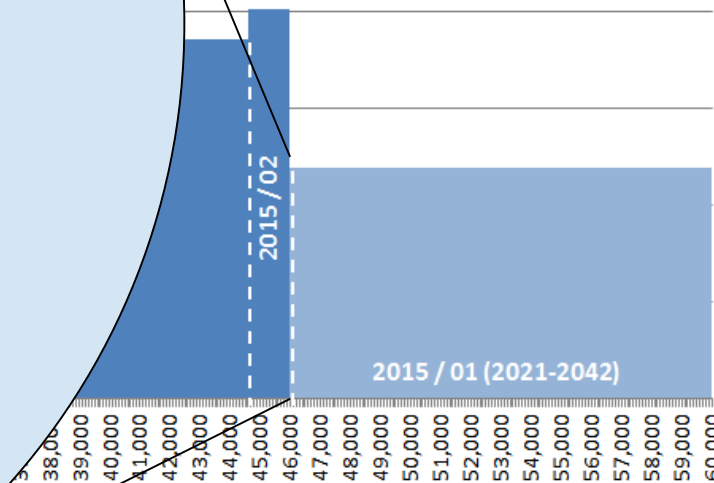
- Block 1 (3,080 GWh/Year | 24 hr. Block) won mainly by wind projects (94.7 %) at an average price of **40.418 US/MWh**
- Block 2-A (680 GWh/Year | Night Block) won only by wind projects (100 %) at an average price of **50.545 US/MWh**
- Block 2-B (1,000 GWh/Year | Solar Block) won by solar and wind projects (28 % solar) at an average price of **41.892 US/MWh (29.1 US/MWh solar pv)**
- Block 2-C (520 GWh/Year | Peaking Block) won mainly by wind (98 %) at an average price of **52,637 US/MWh**
- Block 3 (7,150 GWh/Year | 24 hr. Block) won by a mix of existing conventional and renewable plants at an average price of **52.637 US/MWh**

12.430 GWh/year

Supply 2021 onwards

84 bids / 85.000 GWh offered / 7x

Average Price US\$ 47,6 / MWh



Indexed to August 2016.



# THE NEW DESERT LANDSCAPE IN CHILE...

Planta PV El Salvador  
El Salvador, Chile  
70 MW



# NEW NEIGHBORS IN DIEGO DE ALMAGRO (900 KM NORTH OF SANTIAGO)

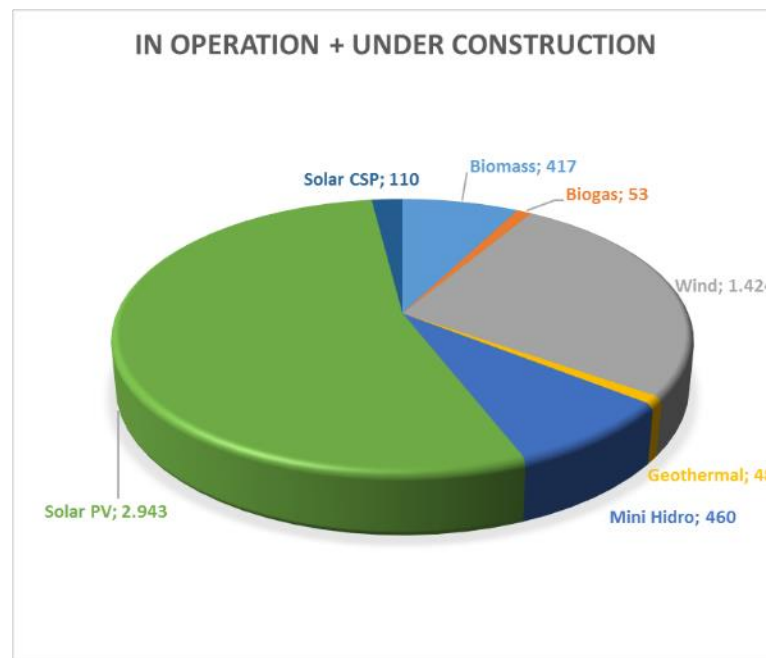


# RENEWABLE ENERGY SITUATION IN CHILE – JULY 2016

## Renewable Energy Status - July 2016

Technology	In Operation (MW)	Under Construction (MW)	Approved (MW)	Under Approval Process (MW)
Biomass	417	0	112	67
Biogas	53	0	8	0
Wind	947	477	6.500	1.949
Geothermal	0	48	120	0
Mini Hidro	435	25	455	95
Solar PV	1.267	1.676	12.038	5.434
Solar CSP	0	110	1.085	1.270
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3.119</b>	<b>2.336</b>	<b>20.318</b>	<b>8.815</b>

Source: CNE, SEIA, CDEC-SIC, CDEC-SING, CIFES



Total Renewable Energy installed capacity: 2.550 MW (12,65% of total capacity)

88,5% of Renewable Energy connected to the SIC

Total Energy injected to the grid from renewable sources: 670 GWh during July 2016

(10,82% of the total generation)





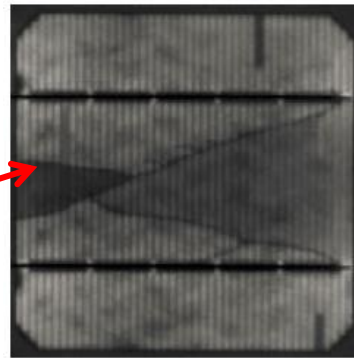
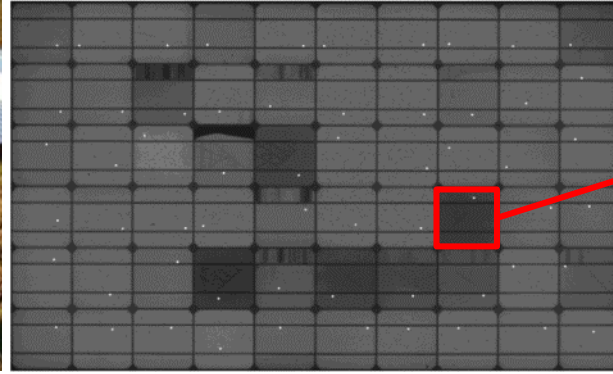
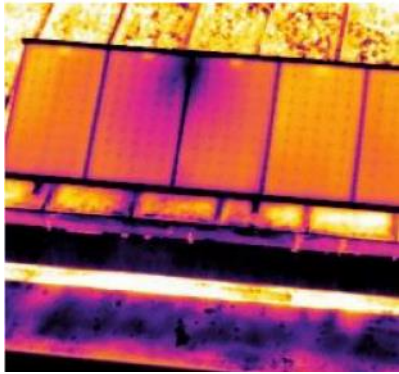
# CHALLENGES

- Transmission issues
- Soiling / Dust
- Quality / Components / High UV
- Energy dispatch issues
- Local content
- New Transmission Law / More Transmission Capacity
- Monitoring / Cleaning techniques
- Testing / Tech. Adaptation
- Forecasting systems
- National Strategic Program



# Quality of components in outdoor extreme conditions

## Degradation analysis: Thermography (IR) and Electroluminescence (EL)

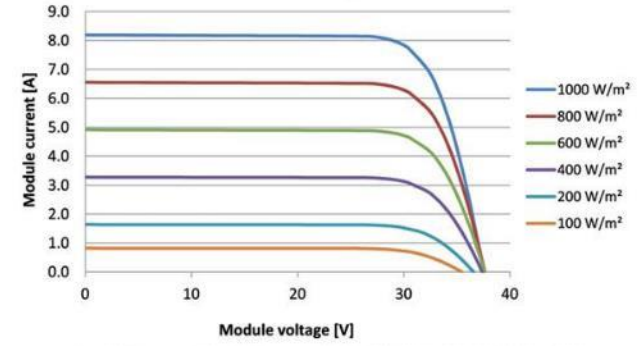


- Most common failures in PV modules are visible true EL and IR
  - Infrared inspection → hot spots are visible
  - Localized EL inspection → failures become visible
  - Early failure detection → anticipate degradation of system and activate product warranties
  - Common failures: micro cracks due to transportation & fabrication issues



# Monitoring Laboratory

## testing of different technologies

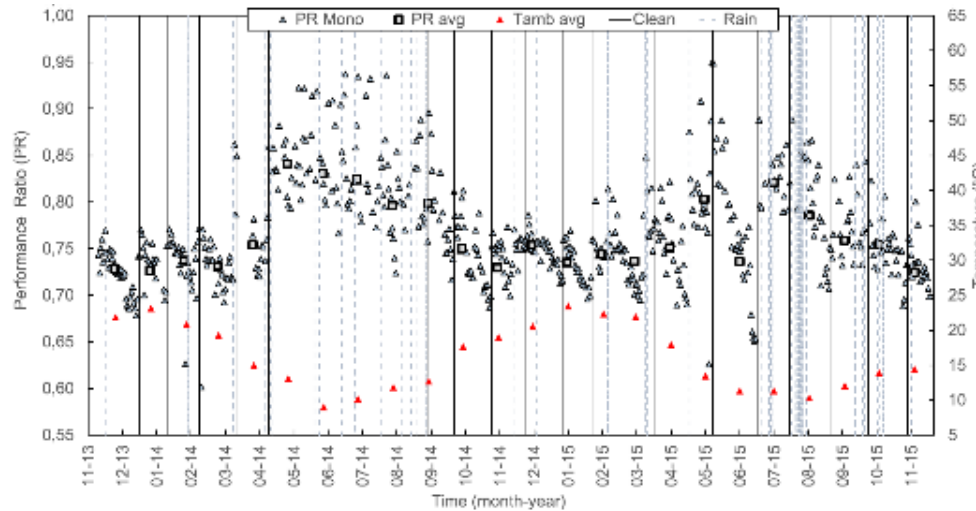


- Laboratory for testing current and new technologies
- Analysis of performance, power generation profiling of bifacial technology
- Automated tracer of I-V characteristics and meteorological data of PV panels
- Determination of temperature coefficient of technologies for arid areas
- Validation of anti-soiling products or cleaning robots



# Analyzing Soiling Losses for industrial PV plants

## most common losses in Atacama Desert



- Soiling losses can strongly impact the generation of PV plants with up to 30% loss
  - We analyze each plant locally, since soiling strongly depends on climate
  - Through a mobile lab we characterize PV systems directly on place of installation
- Real data can be generated on the detrimental issues of soiling in the region
  - We can determine cleaning procedures and give input to local fabricants
  - Modeling of soiling losses give insights on cleaning procedures / soiling mitigation

Ref: \*Urrejola et al. Energy Conversion and Management 114 (2016) 338–347

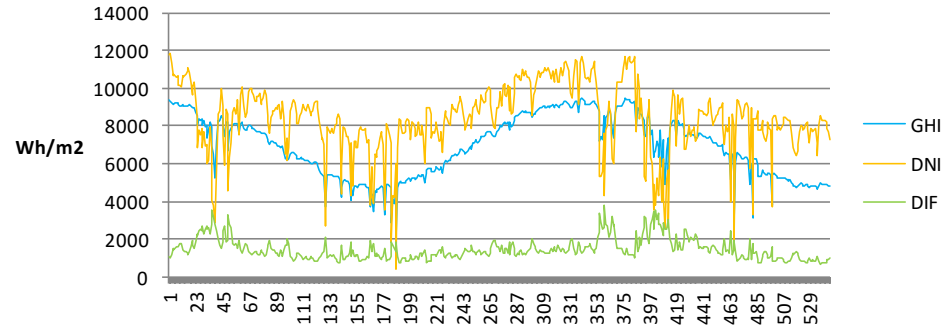


# Variability

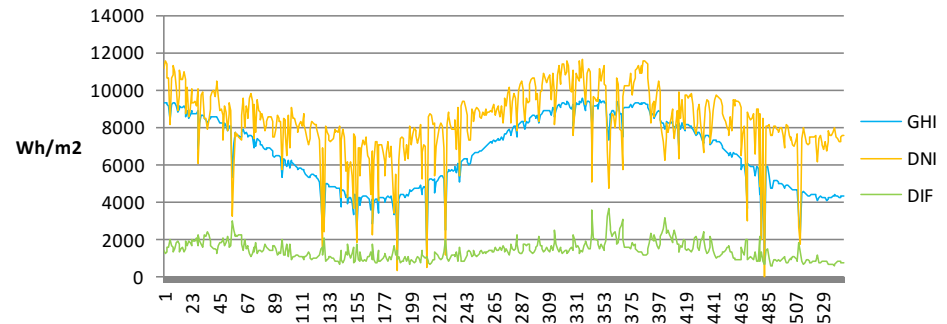
Daily irradiation variability, ~annual period,  
(Global, DNI and Diffuse) in Wh/m<sup>2</sup> 2011-2012

- Almost every day has some clouds in Chile
- Time variability is relatively high during all the year
- Maximum radiation levels are similar in Northern and Central Chile.
- Total anual radiation (DNI) are the highest worldwide, given the number of clear days and sustained daily max levels.

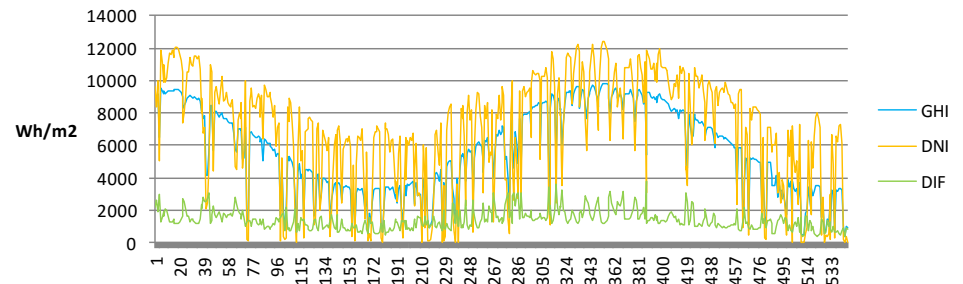
### Crucero – datos Satelitales



### Diego de Almagro



### Santiago



Source: R. Escobar / Fraunhofer CSET / PUC



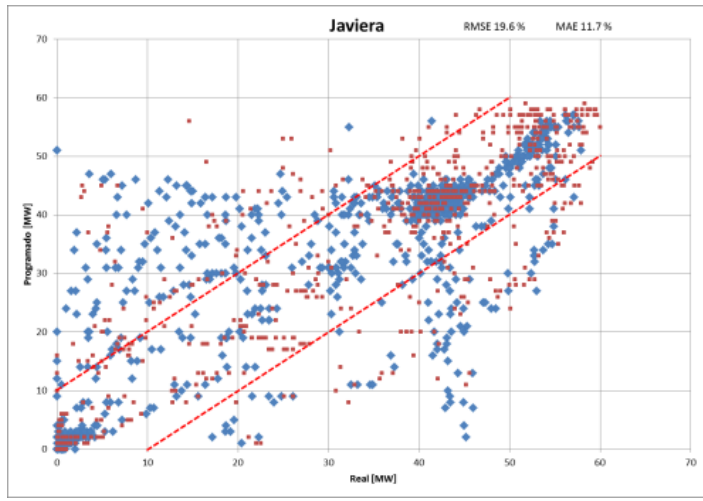
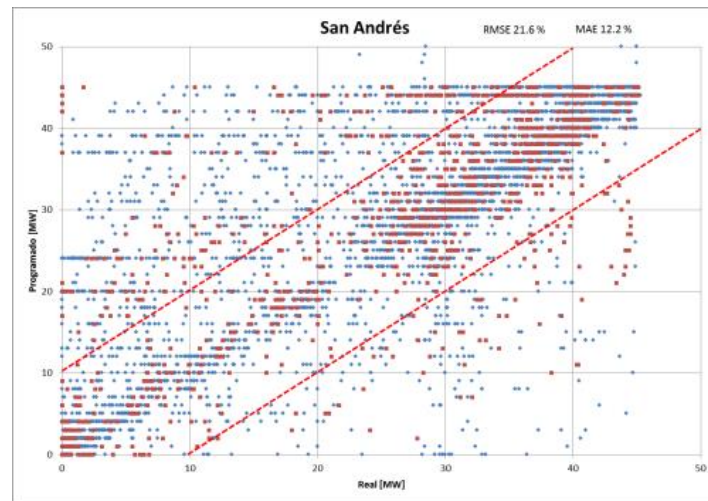
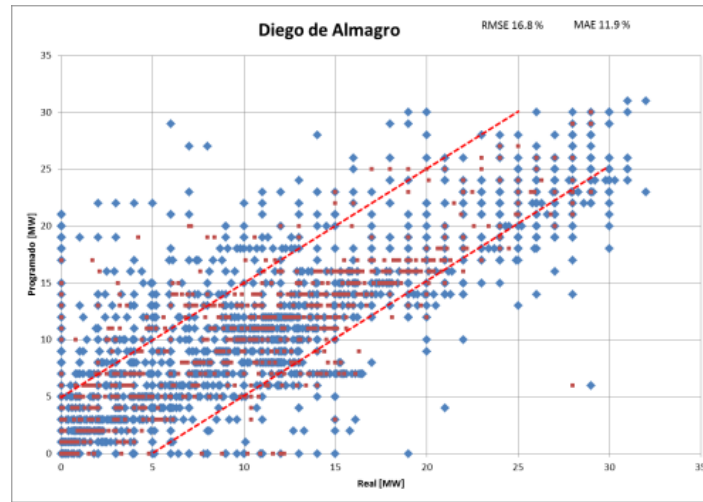
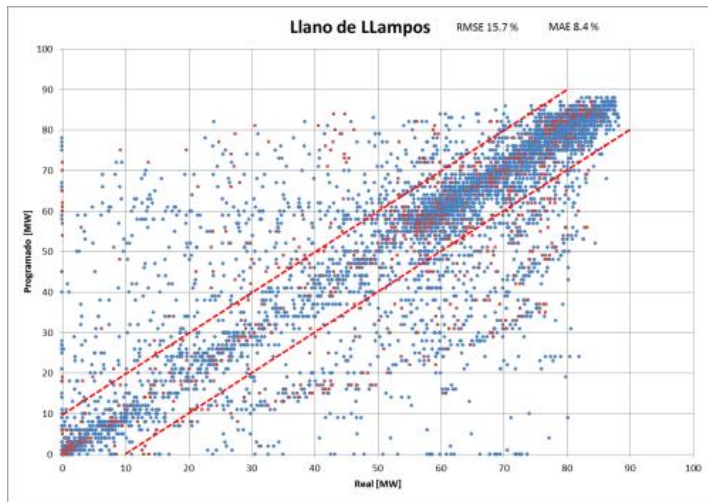


There are clouds in the Atacama Desert...

Source: R. Escobar / Fraunhofer CSET / PUC



# Impact in PV Production – Real Examples / SIC



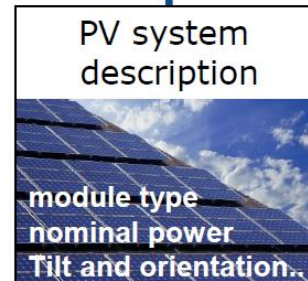
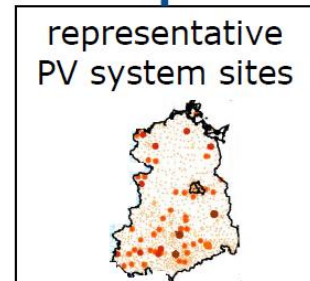
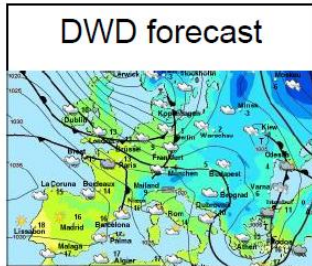
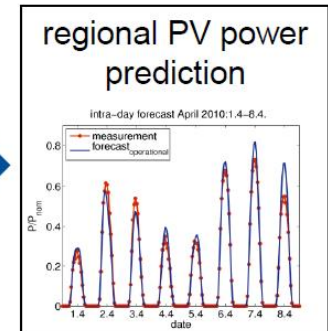
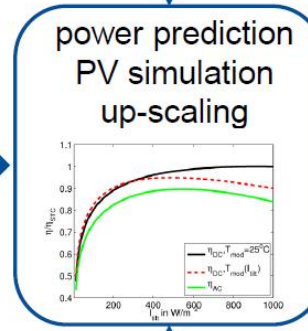
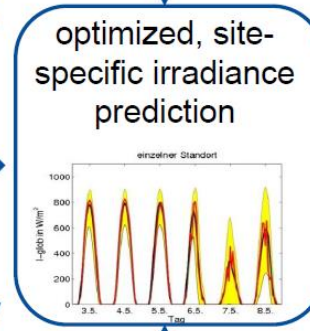
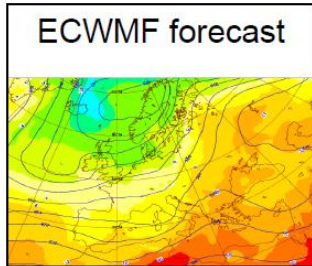
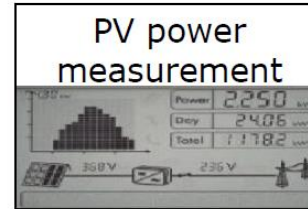
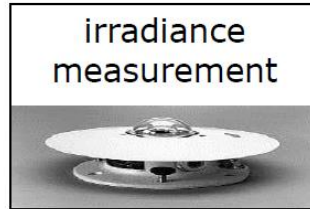
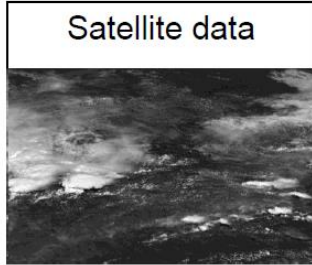
CDEC-SIC  
Info  
Study by Gonzalo  
Ramirez and  
Rodrigo Escobar,  
FCR-CSET, 2015

# Technological Options Available Today – Forecasting Methodologies

forecast horizon

hours

days



ECWMF: European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts

DWD: German Meteorological Organization

Source: R. Escobar / Fraunhofer CSET / PUC





# Forecasting – Nowcasting – Solar Energy Production

## Solar & Power Forecasting (Nowcasting)

- Short term solar production prediction (1-48 hrs.)

State of the art of power forecasting on photovoltaics

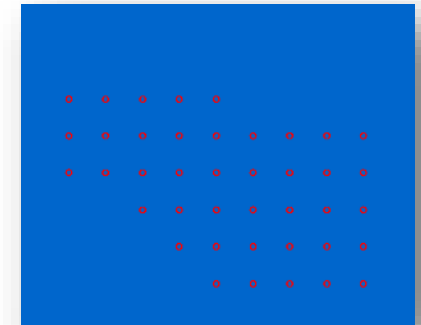
J. Antonanzas<sup>a,\*</sup>, N. Osorio<sup>b</sup>, R. Escobar<sup>b,c</sup>, R. Urraca<sup>a</sup>, F.J. Martinez-de-Pison<sup>a</sup>, F. Antonanzas-Torres<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup>EDMANS Group, Department of Mechanical Engineering, University of La Rioja, Logroño, Spain.

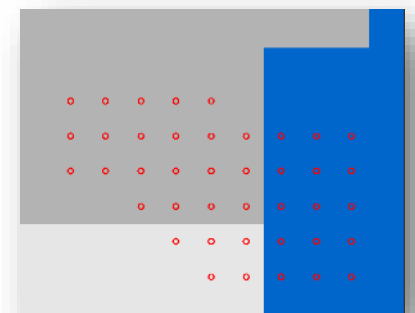
<sup>b</sup>Center for Solar Energy Technologies, Av. Vicuña Mackenna 4860, Macul, Santiago, Chile

<sup>c</sup>Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, Av. Vicuña Mackenna 4860, Macul, Santiago, Chile

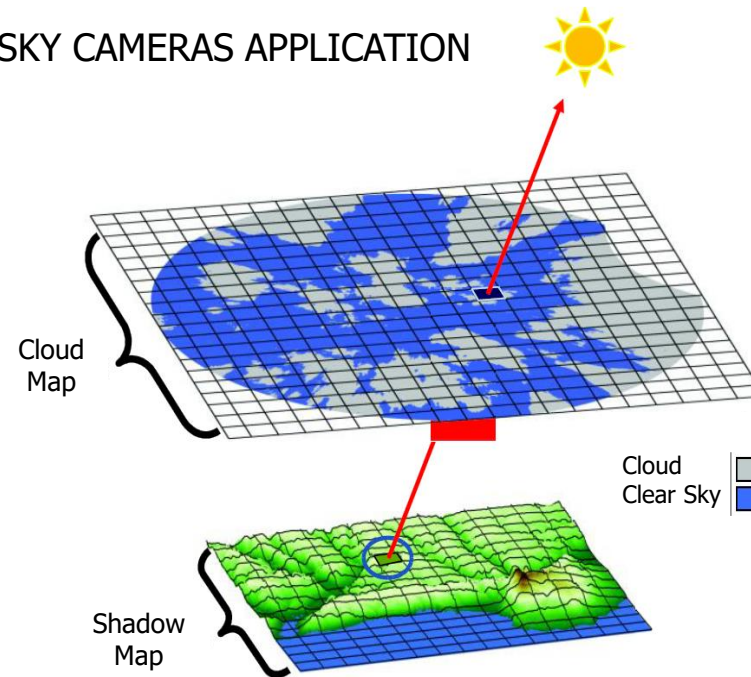
Clear Sky



Partially Clouded Sky



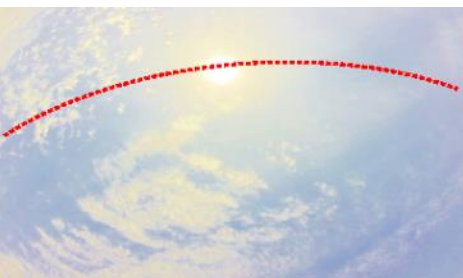
## SKY CAMERAS APPLICATION



Cloud Map

Shadow Map

Cloud  
Clear Sky



Source: R. Escobar / C. Cortés / Fraunhofer CSET / PUC

# PES – National Solar Strategic Program

## Objective: Increase Creation of Local Value



### STRATEGIC SOLAR PROGRAM ROAD MAP GUIDELINES

#### INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

- Open innovation platform
- Solar suppliers development program
- High-tech investment attraction program

#### HUMAN CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT

- Drafting of labor skills profiles
- Training
- Certification
- Advanced Human Capital program

#### TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT

- Desert module and system technology program
- Solar mining and metallurgy program
- Thermal energy storage systems program
- Solar desalinization program
- Solar fuels program

#### STRENGTHENING QUALITY INFRASTRUCTURE

- Climate characterization
- Regulations and standards
- Conformity assessment schemes
- Metrology network

Solar technology center

Solar technology districts

Technological Development  
Program  
Closes November 15

FINANCING  
2016 - 2025

US\$12  
MILLION

CHILEAN  
GOVERNMENT



US\$5  
MILLION

PRIVATE SECTOR  
CONTRIBUTIONS

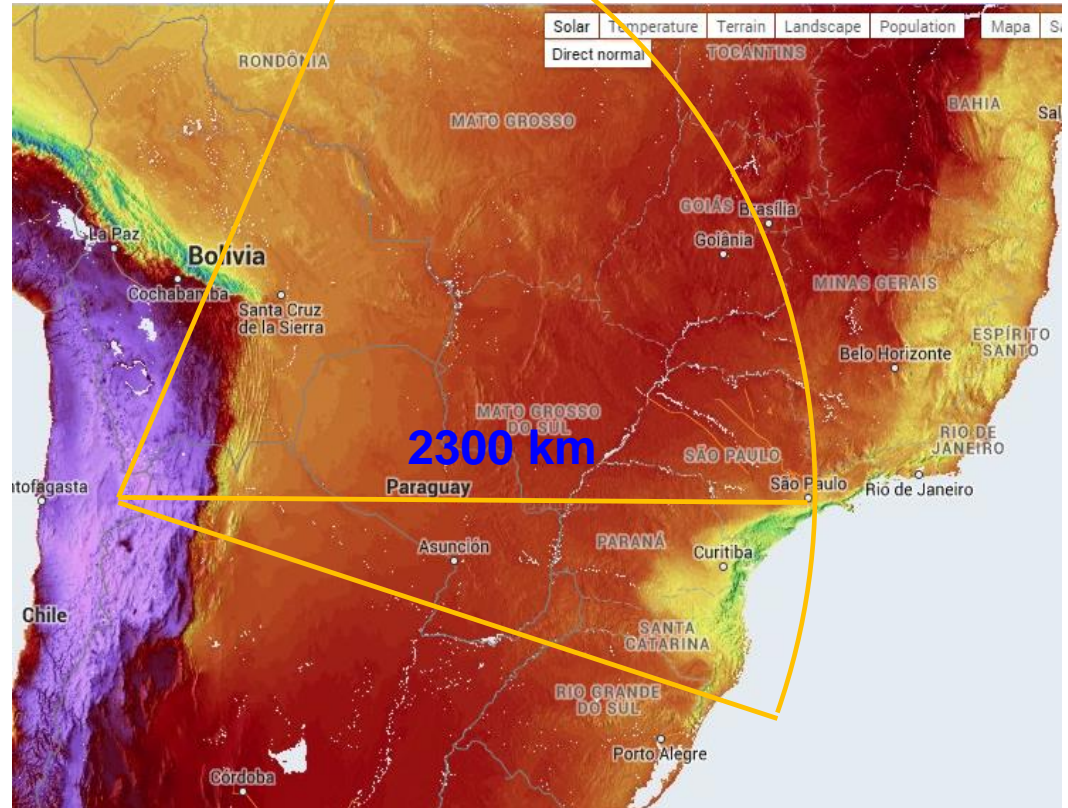


<http://www.desertmodule.cl/>



## A Regional View

- A solar hub in northern Chile could supply energy to a large portion of central South America
- Range of 2300 km, to Sao Paulo region (South of Brazil, Peru, Bolivia, North of Argentina, Uruguay, Paraguay)
- 2300 km of transmission lines is not difficult, many examples worldwide
- **Larger hydro uncertainty due to climate change – solar+hydro could be the solution (Brazil: 64% Hydro)**



Source: Internal Analysis – Fraunhofer Chile Research – Solargis



# SOLAR ENERGY

## An Opportunity for Chile

- The global energy transformation is **the challenge of our generation**, as a first step of the needed transformation to sustainability.
- A **near-100% renewable energy system is possible**, at similar cost as today's energy supply.
- Big challenges, big opportunities: Long term view
  - **Storage** (Pump storage, BESS, H2, etc)
  - **Grid Integration** / Solar (North) + Hydro (South) / **Latinamerican Grid**
  - **Transmission** capacity needed – Critical issue!
  - **Operational Issues**: Forecasting, Soiling, Adaptation to Local Conditions
  - Solar + **Large Desalination Centers** : Solar Energy → Water!
- Chile can take a leading role in the field of R&D for „**high radiation solar**“ technologies.
- Chile can develop a **strong solar industry** (new jobs – new industries) to supply power with high level of security of supply and at competitive prices.

# FRAUNHOFER CHILE: A POLE OF INNOVATION FOR LATIN AMERICA



Fraunhofer Chile Research – Center for Solar Energy Technology | FCR-CSET  
SOLAR Energy in Chile

Contact:  
Marco Vaccarezza  
marco.vaccarezza@Fraunhofer.cl

