

CENTER FOR QUATERNARY STUDIES IN FUEGO-PATAGONIA AND ANTARCTICA **CEQUA**

Discipline: Natural Sciences

Specialty: Marine Biology, Genetics, Biodiversity, Mammalogy, Microbiology, Climate Change.

Since 2002, CEQUA is the first Regional Center created in Chile, which is located in the Magallanes and Chilean Antarctic Territory Region. So far, the Center has consolidated as a leader in "Social Science" which leads the scientific activities carried out with and for the regional community.

CEQUA's scientific vocation is related to the study of natural resources and ecosystems of the most southern region of Chile, which is considered a laboratory *par excellence*. The Center has the purpose of transferring knowledge; promoting valuation, care, protection and sustainable use based in conservation. Thus, the linkage between science and education has been fostered; science and business; science and territories.

CEQUA involves important research areas: Ecology of Aquatic Ecosystems and Territorial Studies, and two distribution departments: Scientific management and practical application for regional development and Science and Community. In the other hand, Environmental Education and Climate Change are also monumental to the Center's work.

The 2021-2030 's goal of CEQUA is the internationalization of regional science. For this, the main research project, which unites both research areas of the Center is: "Microbiome of the External Surface of Keystone Species of Ecological and Economic Importance in the Magallanes and Chilean Antarctic Region: Microbes as Bioindicators of the Aquatic Ecosystem Health in a Global Warming Scenario "(ANID R20F0009).

Thus, CEQUA contributes through the generation of pertinent scientific knowledge, to social development, economic growth, well-being of the Magellan community and highlighting the relevance of the austral territory.

Research Lines:

- Ecology of Aquatic Ecosystems
- Territorial Studies
- Department of Scientific Management and Application to Regional Development
- Department of Science and Community, in charge of scientific dissemination



Regional Centers



>> SCIENTIFIC PRODUCTIVITY:

dataciencia.anid.cl/institution/3005

*Dataciencia.cl



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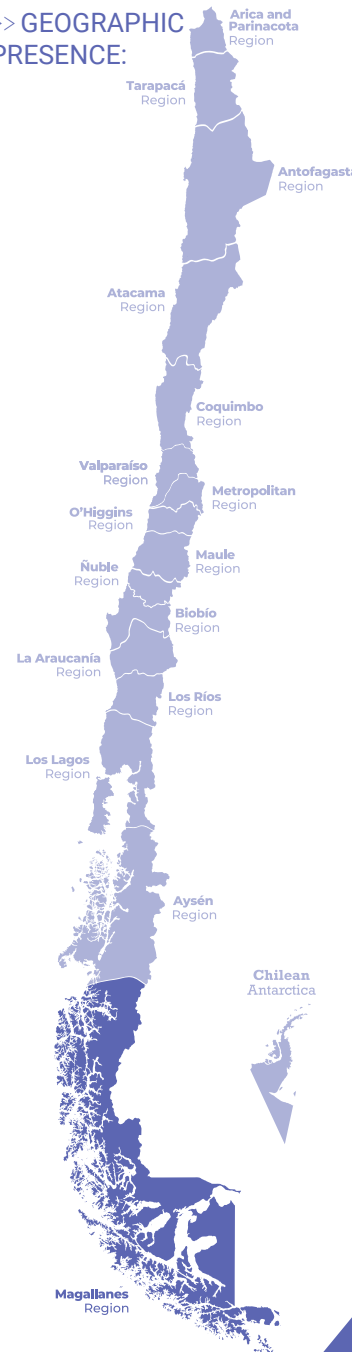
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>> OUTREACH ACTIVITIES:

- Weekly publication of scientific opinion columns in the main regional newspapers.
- Creation of supplemental material "**CEQUARITO**"; published periodically in the edition of the newspaper *El Pinguino* as a color insert that complements the educational plan subjects from early childhood to fourth grade.
- Educational worksheet "**Learning from home with CEQUA**" published in the newspaper *La Prensa Austral*.
- Generation and free distribution of at least 35 educational books and colorable stories from the CEQUA editorial board.
- Generation and free distribution of at least 50 infographics and educational posters, and 10 thematic calendars.
- Participation in the Winter Carnival of the city of Punta Arenas with the presentation of floats and choreographic troupes, based on scientific themes.
- Creation of a traveling marine museum.
- Thematic fairs, exhibits and urban interventions.
- Television capsules, radio stations, photo gallery, live television programs, Tik-Tok game boards.

>> GEOGRAPHIC PRESENCE:



>> MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS:

- Generation of a biological baseline for the denomination of the first Marine Protected Area in Chile, AMP Francisco Coloane.
- CEQUA scientific research on Contramaestre Island, Tierra del Fuego, which allowed the island to be called a National Protected Property.
- Implementation of continuous biological monitoring of marine species in southern fjords and channels as a contribution to conservation and sustainable management.
- Two decades of scientific contribution in the study of the humpback whale.
- CEQUA's applied genetics laboratory is a benchmark in the study of aquatic organisms and the implementation of molecular techniques of public domain.
- Avant-garde project that studies the microbiome of the biological community of the Francisco Coloane AMP.

Founding Partner Institutions:
University of Magallanes
Fishing Promotion Institute
Regional Government of Magallanes