



Scientific Promotion Programme for IMS data in Chile

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The scientific potential of the IMS data and products has not been exploited very efficiently in Chile. In order to reverse it, the Chilean NDC is developing a *Scientific Promotion Programme* to foster the CTBT, as well as encourage and support the scientific community to perform research with valuable data.



There has been some scientific projects based on IMS data and related products, but, according to our goals, Chile exhibits a lack of these projects even though there is a remarkable group of skilled scientists able to deal with the available data.

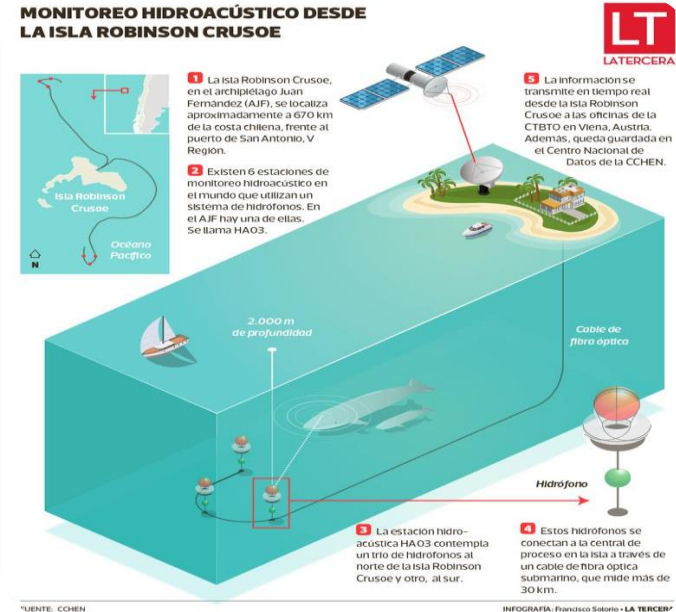
We identified the problem: among the Chilean scientific community, the CTBT is not very well known, as well as the data generated by the IMS stations.



Oral presentation of Dr. Rodrigo de Negri during SnT 2019.

In order to provide a solution to this problem, a new NDC Coordinator and Analyst was hired to carry out a program: The **Scientific Promotion Programme (SPP)** that include three stages:

1. Capacity building
2. Promotion
3. Implementation



Extract of a journalist note in a national newspaper (La Tercera).

1) Capacity Building

- Review of all the institutions in Chile that could have the capacity to use the data.
- Creation of a web page containing all the information related to the CTBT in Chile.
- On-line meetings with scientists who have already used IMS data and received feedback to improve our services.
- Use of social networks to provide information on topics of interest to researchers.
- Permanent contact with Chilean research institutions.



Chilean NDC Coordinator and Analyst, Christopher Celis on the first CTBTO IMS training in Viena, 2020.

2) Promotion:

- Contacting Deans and Directors of the Chilean institutions to encourage them to check our website and forward this information to their academic staff.
- Preparing digital presentations to explain more details about the CTBT and the SPP.
- Coordinating online meetings with researchers interested on SPP.



Digital presentation to introduce the SPP on online meetings with the community.

3) Implementation:

- In order to provide access to the IMS data and products via the SPP, the researcher must sign an agreement with the Chilean Nuclear Energy Commission. The purpose is to ensure that the data are used in research projects that guarantee the confidentiality required for IMS data and related products (same as vDEC).
- To help scientists with their works and provide them NDC-in-a-Box installation, as well as request and access to IMS data and products training.
- After finishing the projects, researchers are encouraged to apply for SnT and/or any other CTBTO related conferences.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the correct operation of the SPP has not been achieved yet. Quarantines and social distancing has made difficult to reach some Chilean institutions, delaying all SPP plans. Despite that, we had the opportunity to present our SPP to some of them, with a very positive reception by scientists about IMS data.

Also, on the first stage, we had online meetings with the scientists who already used some of the IMS data on their research, this way we could hear from them about the difficulties they encountered through that process, and in summary they pointed that initially the hardest part was preparing their computers to install NDC-in-a-Box and understanding the basics to request the data they wanted.

The COVID-19 pandemic has stuck the world as never seen before. However, online platforms are shown to be a good tool to maintain people communicated; this can be very useful in the future, so when the crisis is over, we plan to continue using these methods to make sure distance is not a factor that can hinder the implementation of the SPP across the whole country.

The results so far are positive so hopefully when the final stage is met the national scientific community may take full advantage of the great potential of the IMS data and related products.