

THE CATAMAYO BASIN

The binational Catamayo-Chira river basin has an extension of 17,199.18 km², 7,212.37 km² of which are in Ecuadorian territory (66.82% of the Loja province), the Peruvian part occupies an area of 9,986.81 km² and it is located in the Department of Piura (corresponding to 30% of the Department).

The river basin is located between 03°30' and 05°08' South latitude and 79°10' and 81°11' West longitude, with a altitudinal rank that goes from sea level, in the outlet of Chira river (in the Pacific Ocean), to 3,700 m. in Podocarpus National Park (Loja). The river basin limits North with the binational river basin Puyango - Tumbes, East with the Zamora - Chinchipe province in Ecuador, South with the provinces of Piura and Huancabamba in Peru and West with the Pacific Ocean.

The territory of the Catamayo-Chira river basin comprises the old Ecuadorian-Peruvian volcanism that comes off the Azuay Knot (located in Ecuador) and is crossed by Western and Eastern Andean mountain ranges. These mountain ranges, to the south, 3°40' S, and in Ecuadorian territory diminish considerably in altitude.

The plains are rare and of little extension in the Eastern and central part of the region, but towards the low and western sector of the river basin, with altitudes below 500m., shows quite extensive plains, with very differentiated biomass and vegetal cover.

The Catamayo Chira river basin, is constituted by the sub river basins of Quiroz (3,108.77 km²), Chipillico (1,170.27 km²), Alamor (1,190.27 km²), Macará (2,833.29 km²), Catamayo (4,184.03 km²) and the Chira System (4,711.90 km²). The main course is the Catamayo Chira river, with an overall length of 315 km, of which 196 km are located in Ecuadorian territory, in which it takes the name of Catamayo river, and the rest 119 km, in Peruvian territory, where it takes the name of Chira river.

TWINLATIN PROJECT

The Latin American and Caribbean region is highly heterogeneous in terms of climate zones, hydroecology, socio-political systems etc. Numerous problems in relation to water quality and water availability arise. Flooding occurs frequently and erosion and pollution pressures have also become major problems. Management strategies, legal framework and stakeholder involvement needs to be improved. Activities and research tasks will be conducted within several fields of IWRM; hydrology, modelling of pollution flow, impact assessment, socio-economic impacts, climate change effects, scenario analysis and action efficiency.

The project addresses the goals of the EU Water for Life, and builds on the methods and guidelines developed for the EU WFD.

The main interest areas for research within the TWINLATIN project are:

- Water quality (provision of drinking water)
- Establishment of a monitoring program
- Erosion and loss of biodiversity (vulnerability)
- Climate change and future development
- Contamination pressure and analysis

(ADDITIONAL INFO ON [HTTP://TWINLATIN.IVL.SE/INDEX.HTML](http://TWINLATIN.IVL.SE/INDEX.HTML))



ABOUT TWIN2GO

Twin2Go reviews, consolidates, and synthesises research on adaptive and integrated water resources management in basins around the world. The aim is to draw insights relevant to policy and research on issues around adaptive water governance in the context of climate change, and to make them transferable to other basins. Twin2Go further promotes sharing of research results with practitioners and high level decision makers through effective dialogue.

