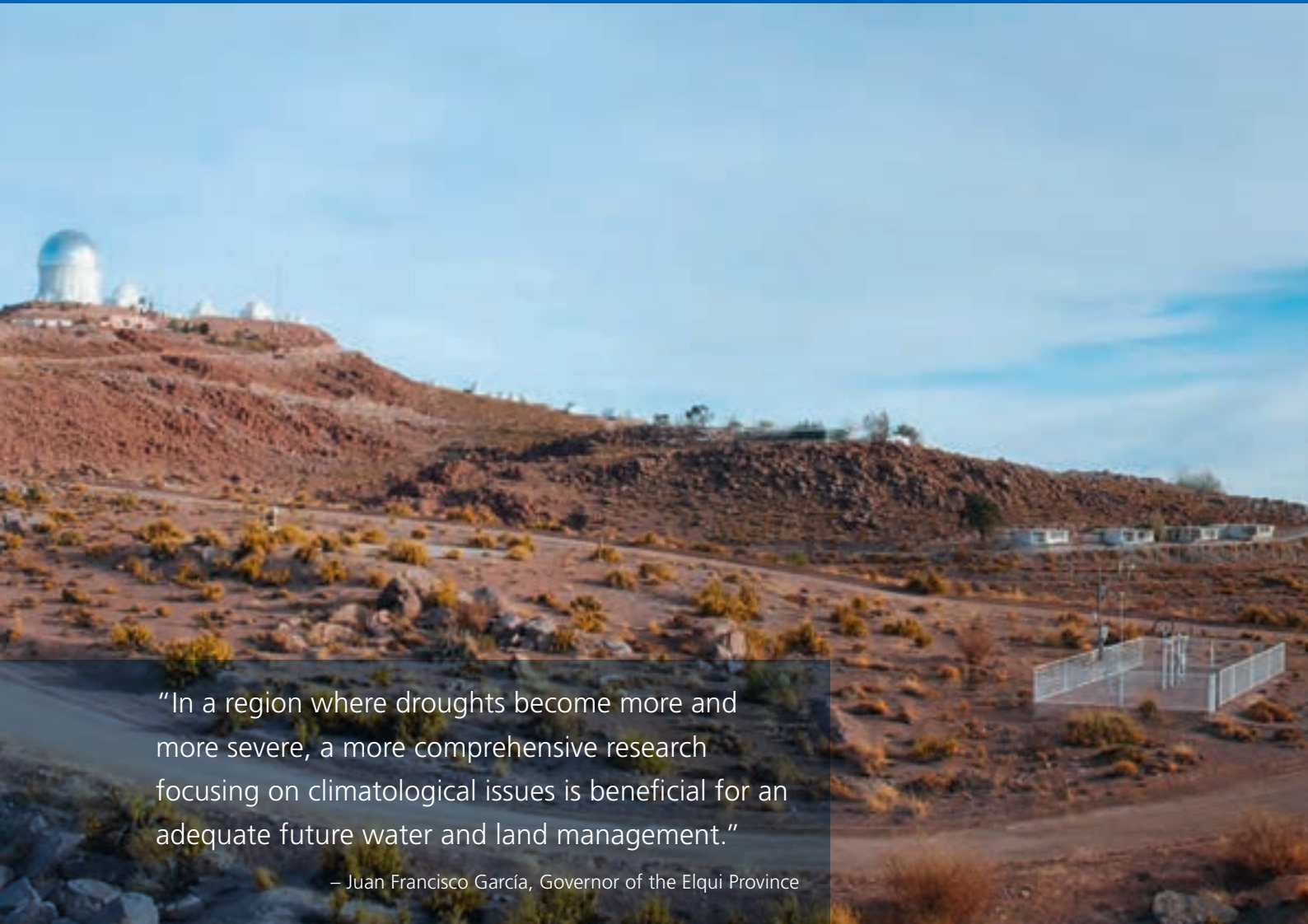


Chile

El Tololo

Atmospheric Domain



“In a region where droughts become more and more severe, a more comprehensive research focusing on climatological issues is beneficial for an adequate future water and land management.”

– Juan Francisco García, Governor of the Elqui Province



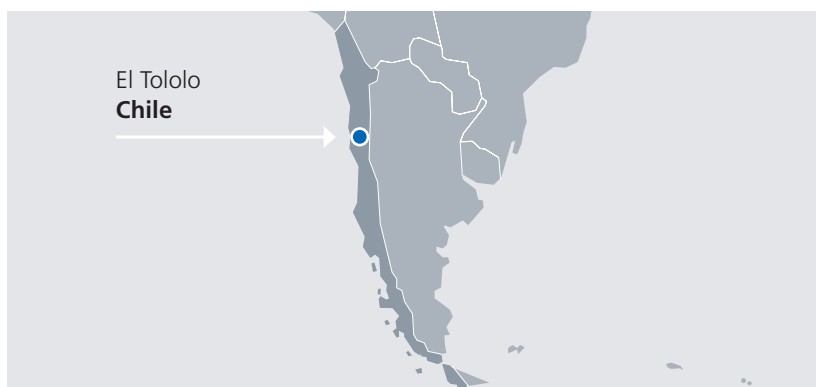
Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
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Federal Office of Meteorology and Climatology MeteoSwiss
Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation SDC

CATCOS 
Capacity Building and Twinning for Climate Observing Systems

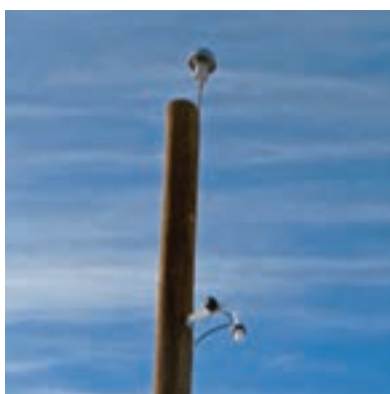
The Cerro Tololo in the Coquimbo Region of northern Chile is well known for its astronomical observations at a remote location at 2'200 meters above sea level. At the same time, it is host to the Global Atmosphere Watch Regional Station El Tololo where meteorological parameters are measured. The site provides ideal conditions to measure greenhouse gases and aerosols representative for a geographically large area in the region.



As part of the CATCOS Project, the Paul Scherrer Institute (PSI) and the Swiss Federal Laboratories for Materials Science and Technology (Empa), together with the Dirección Meteorológica de Chile (DMC) equipped the El Tololo station with new aerosol and greenhouse gas observations. After successful installation of the measuring equipment, data processing and quality control ensure the submission of high-quality data to the respective International Data Centers for aerosols and greenhouse gases.

Station Name	El Tololo (TLL)
Coordinates	30.17°S 70.80°W
Elevation	2'220 m.a.s.l.
Parameter	Aerosols Greenhouse gases
Monitoring Network	Global Atmosphere Watch (GAW)
International Data Center	World Data Center for Aerosols (WDCA) World Data Center for Greenhouse Gases (WDCGG)
Training	On-site support and twinning Aerosol data processing course GAW station operator course

Standard operating procedures and detailed maintenance instructions are introduced to the operators during the implementation. Twinning activities further guarantee local operators a constant remote support for any technical and scientific issues. Training courses during CATCOS provide guidance as operators from El Tololo are trained to perform data processing and quality control according to international standards.



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