

# PASCUA LAMA BINATIONAL MINING PROJECT (Barrick Gold, Canada)

***“WATER IS MORE PRECIOUS  
THAN GOLD”***

**OBSERVATORIO LATINOAMERICANO DE CONFLICTOS AMBIENTALES**

**[WWW.OLCA.CL](http://WWW.OLCA.CL)**



**Most mining investment in Chile comes from Canada.**

**National environmental legislation does not protect Ecosystems, public or environmental health.**

**Gaps in taxation laws are exploited by foreign companies.**

**The national government protects foreign mining investments despite the environmental and social damage they cause.**

**Absence of effective national and international complaint mechanisms regarding impacts.**

**The bilateral environmental agreement between Chile and Canada does not guarantee enforcement of national environmental legislation.**

# PASCUA LAMA PROJECT

**CONSTRUCTION CAPITAL.**      **US\$ 1.380 – 1.500**

**GOLD RESERVES:**              **17.6 million oz (547,42 t)**

**SILVER:**                              **465 million oz (14,463 t)**

**COPPER:**                              **110,000 t. (concent.)**

**TOTAL OPERATION:**              **17 YEARS**





## ANEXO II

### AMBITO DE APLICACIÓN DEL TRATADO DE COOPERACIÓN E INTEGRACIÓN MINERA

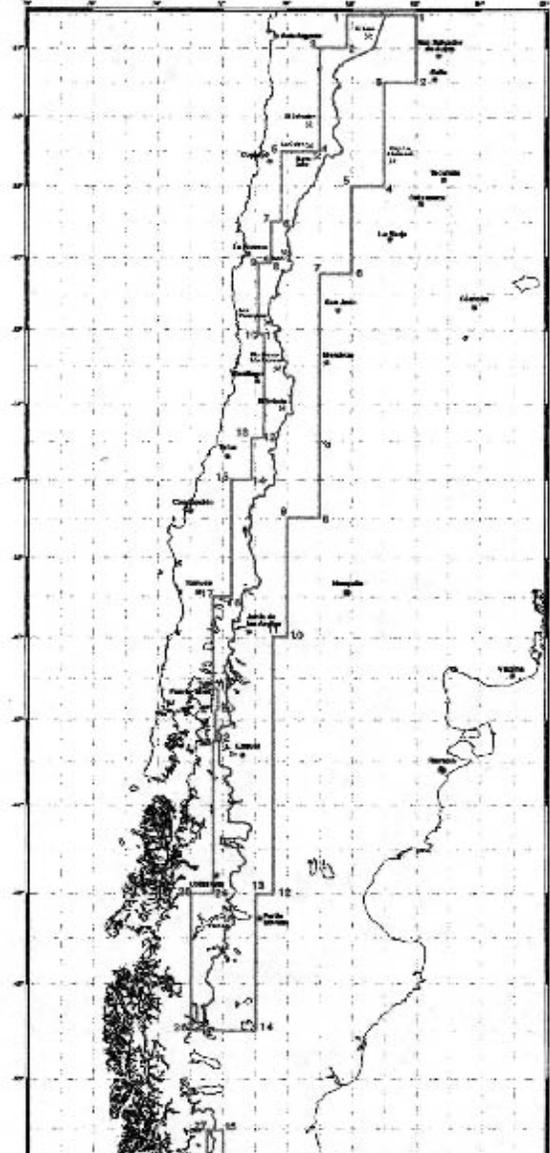
#### Simbología:

- ▲ Yacimiento minero
- Ciudad
- Límite Internacional
- Ambito de aplicación
- 1 Vértice coordenada en Chile
- 1 Vértice coordenada en Argentina

El presente mapa se anexa solo al efecto de representar los vértices que definen el ámbito de aplicación del Tratado de Integración y Complementación Minera.

El presente mapa representa parcialmente el territorio de cada una de las partes.

Las partes se reservan el uso de su propia toponimia en los respectivos territorios.



# Chile-Argentina Bilateral Mining Agreement



**Some pictures of life and culture in the valley**

## Traffic of Heavy Trucks

**120 truckloads per month of copper concentrates**

**2 truckloads per year of mercury**

**70 truckloads per month of processing chemicals**

**17 truckloads per month of cyanide**

**200 truckloads of explosives**

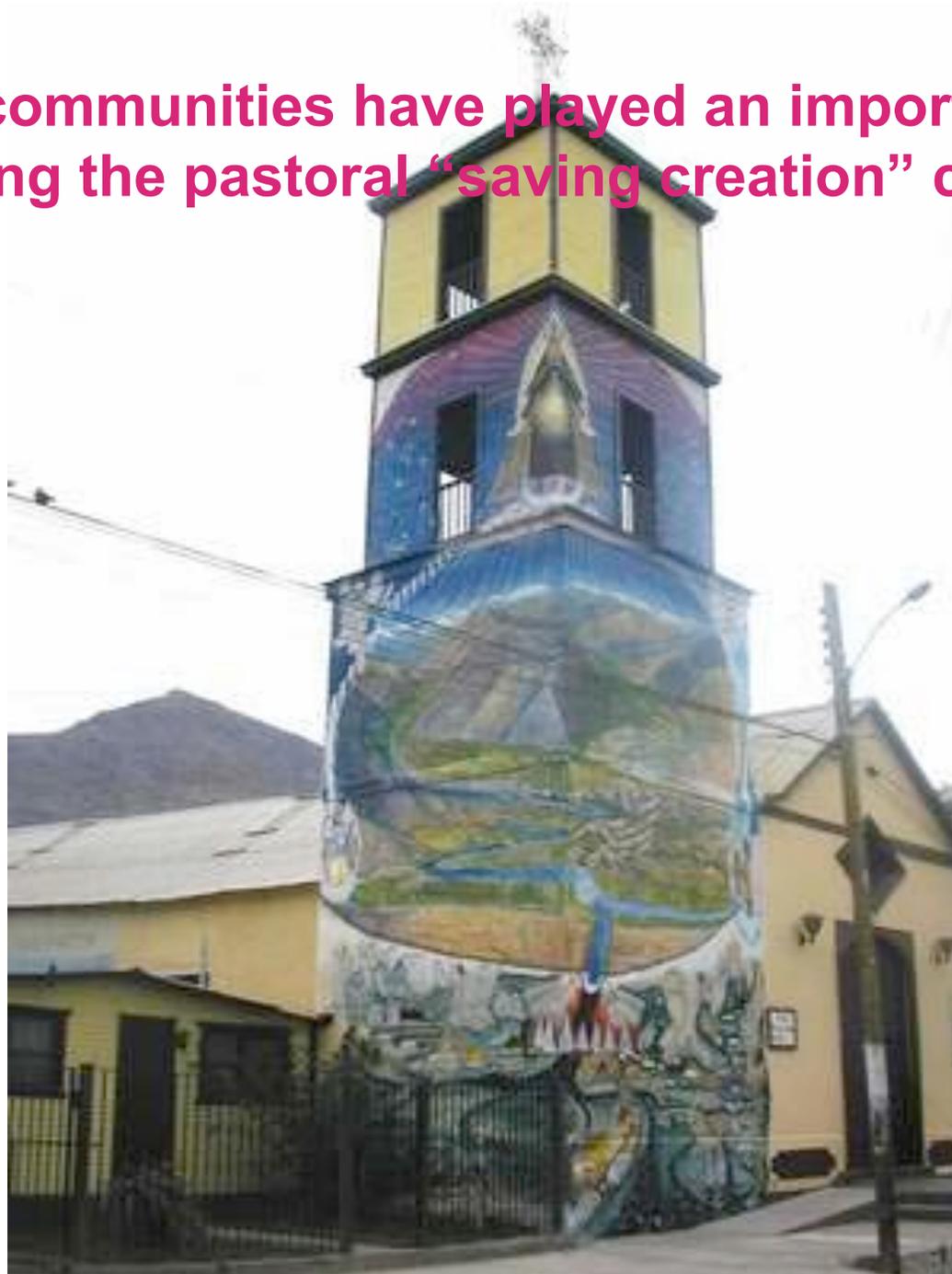
**1 truckload of fuel**

**180 truckloads of petrol**

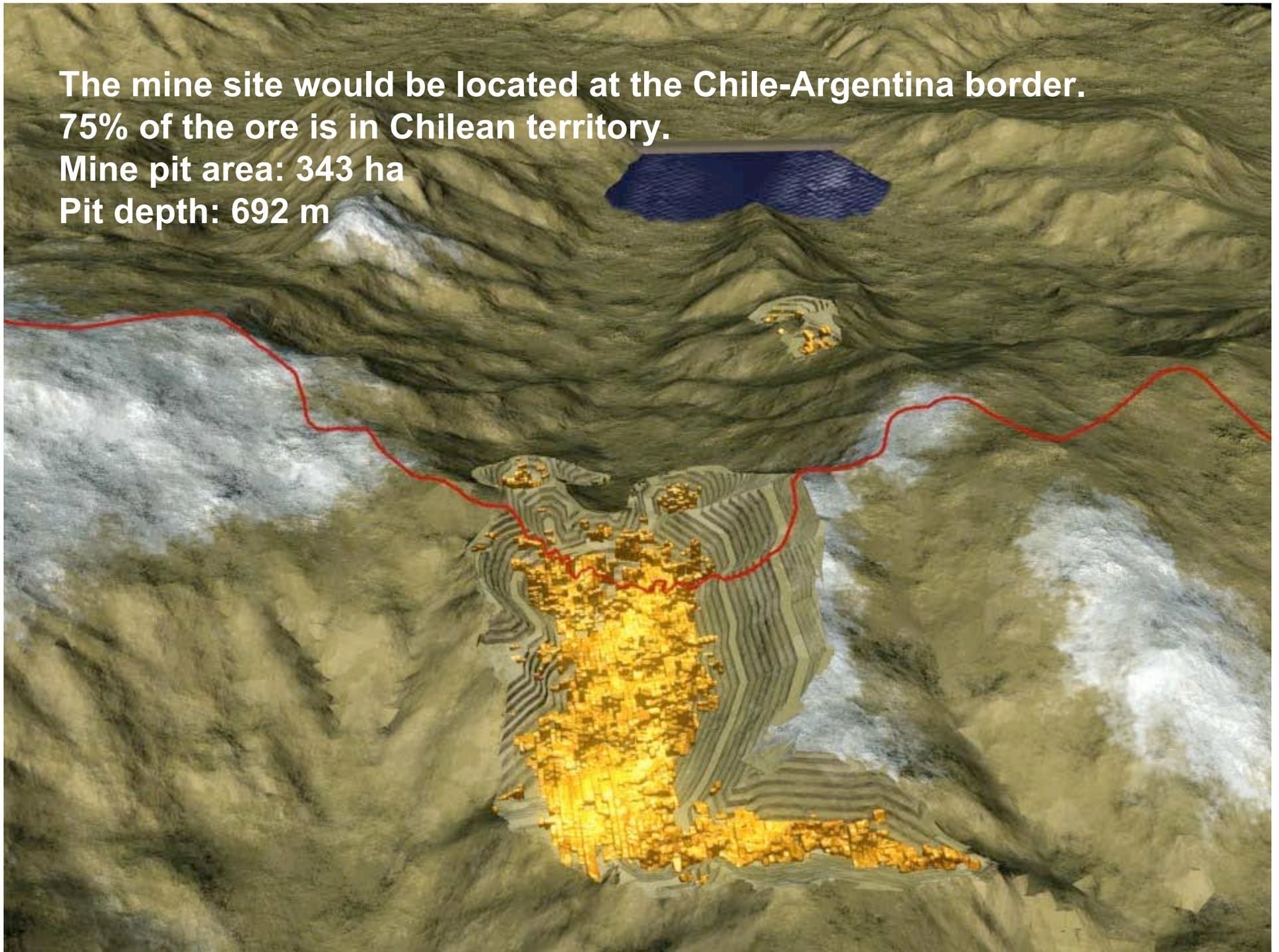
**Agriculture is the basic economic activity in the valley**

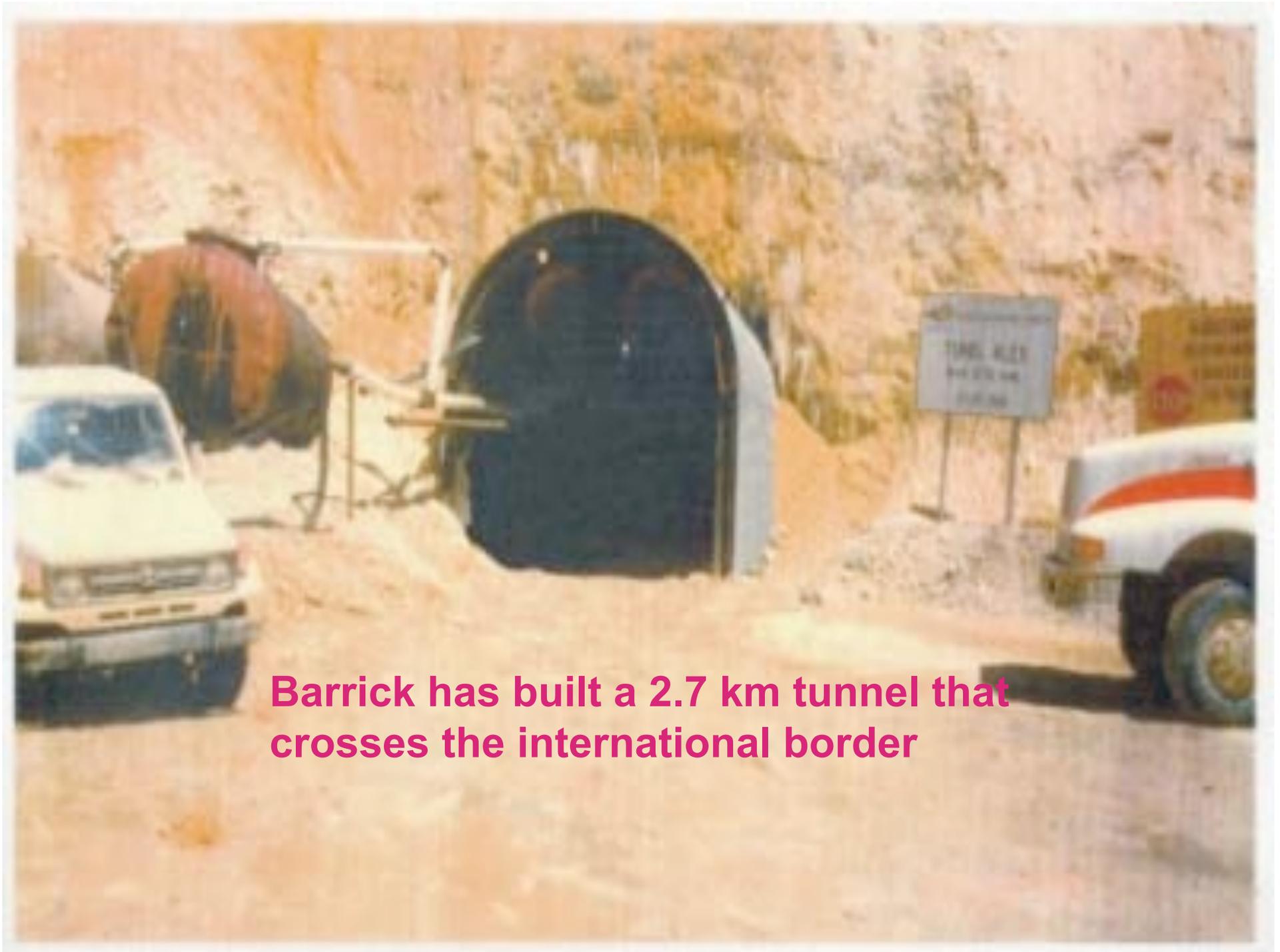


**Christian communities have played an important role by organizing the pastoral “saving creation” campaign**



The mine site would be located at the Chile-Argentina border.  
75% of the ore is in Chilean territory.  
Mine pit area: 343 ha  
Pit depth: 692 m





**Barrick has built a 2.7 km tunnel that crosses the international border**



**Waste rock disposal site at the headwaters of the Estrecho River (area: 327ha, capacity: 1.274 mt, height: 692m)**

# Future acid mine drainage treatment plant

Other elements present:

Aluminum

Barium

Cadmium

Copper

Iron

Manganese

Sulphates



# Toro 1 Glacier



11.17.21

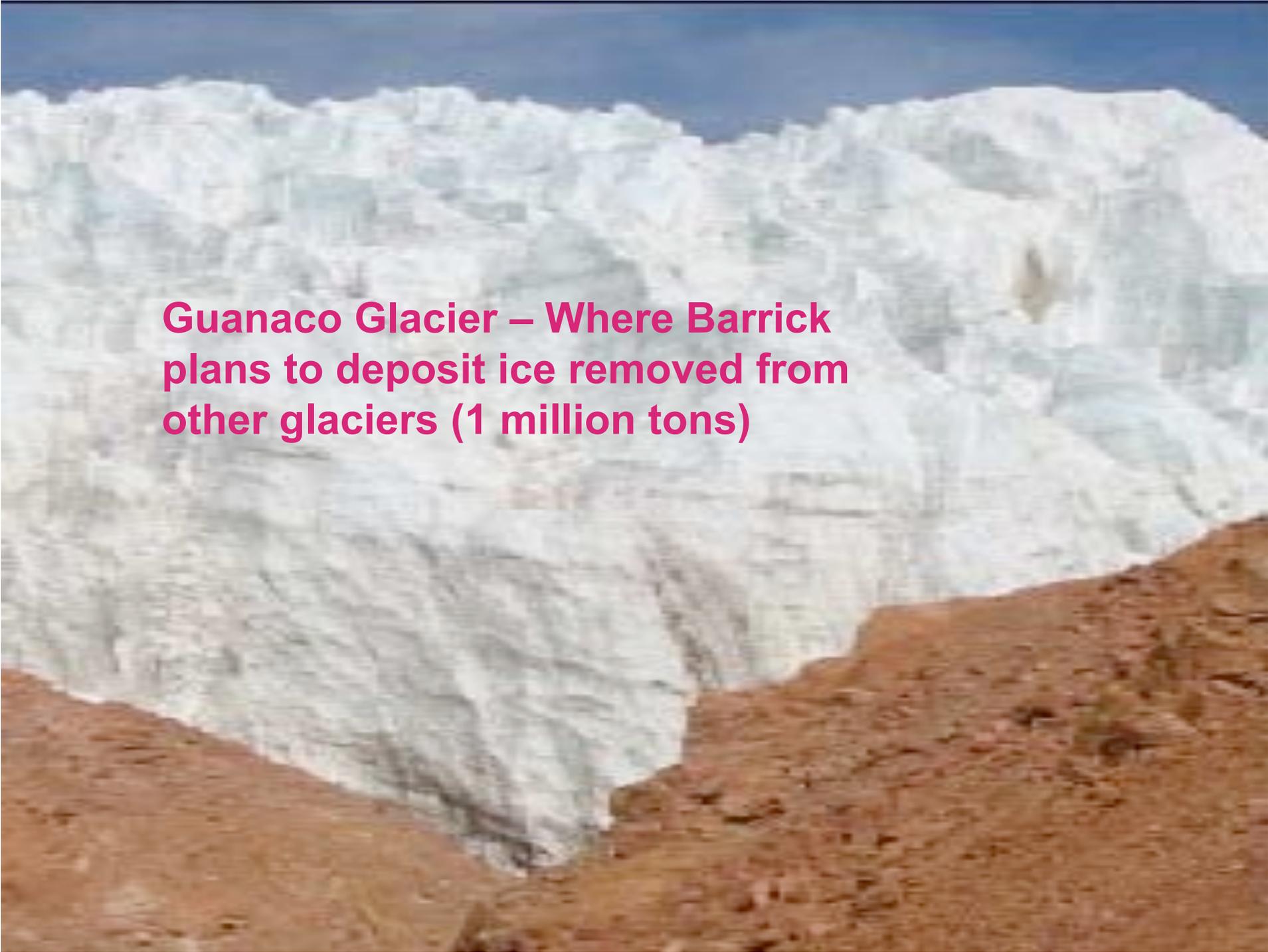
# Toro 2 Glacier



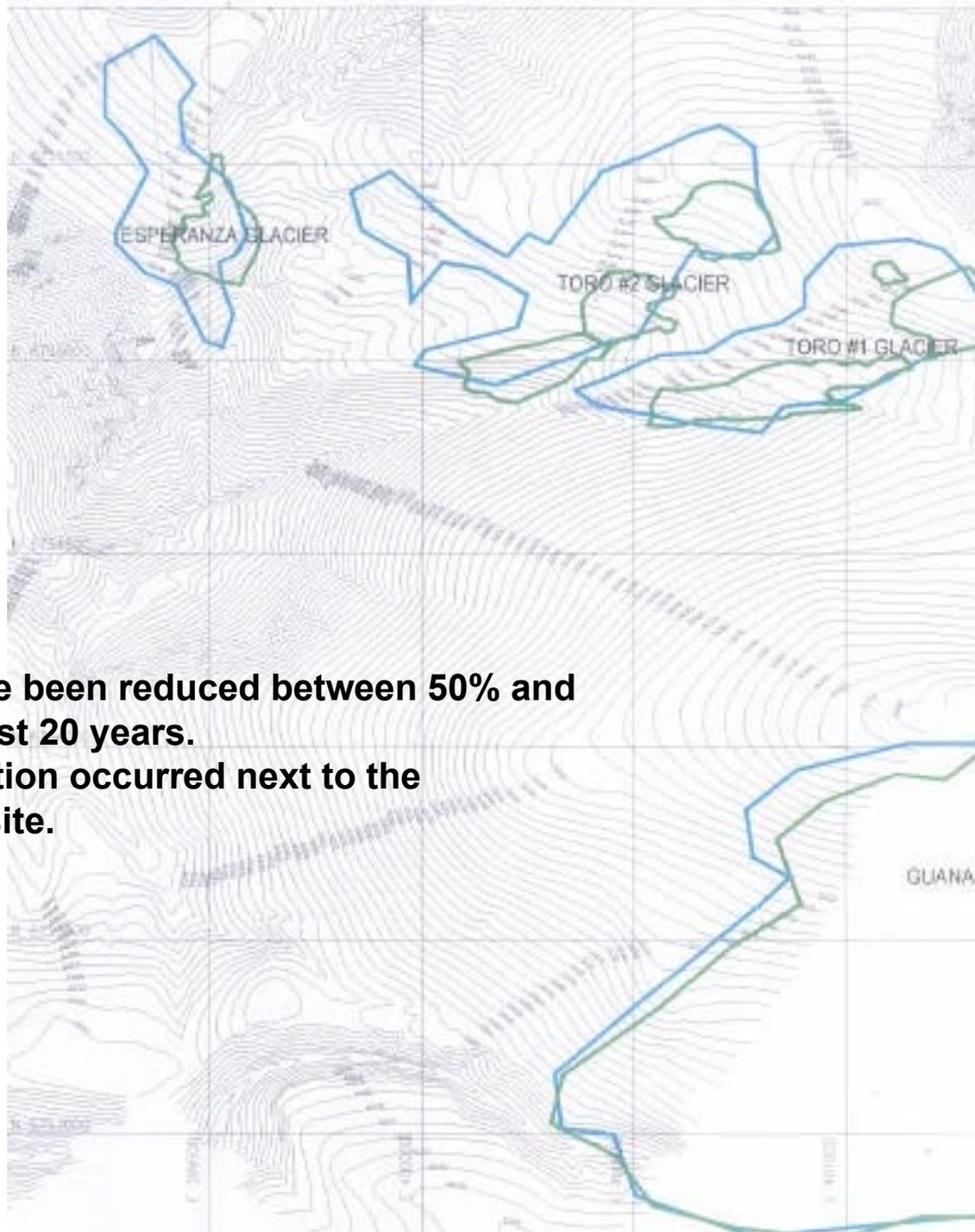


Esperanza Glacier

11 16 14



**Guanaco Glacier – Where Barrick plans to deposit ice removed from other glaciers (1 million tons)**



**Glaciers have been reduced between 50% and 70% in the last 20 years. The degradation occurred next to the exploration site.**

**Ten years ago, Barrick cut through the Esperanza glacier to construct roads.**



Esta foto fue tomada hace 10 años cuando la Barrick realizaba prospecciones geológicas en la zona donde se encuentra ahora el proyecto Pascua Lama. En la imagen se ve claramente cómo el camino, construido por la minera, daña el glaciar.

An airstrip was built on an unprotected wetland



**First signs of resistance against the mining project**



**First contact between Chilean and Argentinean leaders**



# Leaders in the conflict





**Indigenous communities  
“Diaguitas” lost at least  
390,000 ha of territory,  
the majority illegally.**

**They sued Barrick for an  
illegal transfer of land.**



**Argentinean protests in Jachal against the mining project**



**A demonstration in Vallenar, March 21, 2005 with the participation of at least 500 people.  
The first mass demonstration in this city since 1973.**

**Vallena, June 4, 2005:  
3,000 people demonstrated against  
the project**





Protests in Santiago in front of the Barrick office

**Leaders of the Huasco River irrigation organization sign a protocol with Barrick to receive more than US\$60 million in compensation**





Chilean communities affected by mining projects need the active involvement of governments, NGOs, and international institutions to protect community rights, environmental and public health, and natural resources like water for future development.

Voluntary mechanisms aren't guarantees!

***Because water is more precious than gold!***