



The 3<sup>rd</sup> International Forum  
on Water and Food  
Tshwane, South Africa  
November 14 – 17, 2011



Co-hosted by:



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## Defining Benefit Sharing Mechanisms in the Context of Water and Food Related Services in the Andean Region

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### Session: Basin (Andes) and Benefit Sharing Mechanisms



A COLLECTIVE MEETING IN PUCARAMI, BOLIVIA TO DISCUSS “HOW TO GET A BETTER LIFE”

### **Key Message**

To develop a concept of benefit sharing mechanisms in the Andean region or elsewhere, it is necessary to review and follow processes carried out by formal and informal institutions for water use and distribution at different scales and in a wide range of environments. This can be done by empirical and direct observations in the field combined with careful review of existing experience and reports from recognized sources of information.

## **Summary**

AN3 understands BSM as a process of collective action that seeks to ensure the satisfaction of collective interests by means of fair and equitable agreements between a representative selection of the population and stakeholders involved in such processes, without undermining the resource base and quality of life. We are testing and enriching this concept against empirical observations in a diverse range of Andean communities and environments (in different basins), including contrasting social, cultural and economic circumstances. These systems are facing processes of change leading to social and environmental degradation. We are also reviewing documented experiences potentially framed into this approach that together with the direct observations allow us to identify principles and criteria that take us towards smooth implementation and consolidation of BSM.