



## WHAT IS FONDAP?

The FONDAP Program was created in 1997 as a tool for scientific development. Its goal is to build high-impact scientific research centers of excellence, in the framework of the priority areas that provide solutions to national interest problems, and that are geared towards the establishment and consolidation of research teams.

## HOW DO FONDAP CENTERS WORK?

FONDAP-funded projects have a multidisciplinary approach and contribute to basic research of excellence in the priority area in which they are involved. This is accomplished through the partnership of Chilean and international researchers at centers of excellence that should become a worldwide reference. Managing the FONDAP Centers also includes a significant educational component.



[www.conicyt.cl](http://www.conicyt.cl)

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**FONDAP**  
Fund for Research Centers  
of Excellence

## Research Centers of Excellence for Chile's Development



## A CONTRIBUTION TO EXCELLENCE

Since its creation in 1997, the FONDAP Program has funded nine Centers of Excellence. Over 850 Chilean and international researchers have been trained at the Centers, and these scientists have produced more than 4,350 indexed publications. Additionally, the Centers have played a significant role in the education of human resources: over 520 young researchers have obtained their PhD, more than 315 have obtained their Master's degree, and close to 435 post-doctoral professionals have participated in the Centers' research programs.

## SIX NEW RESEARCH CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE

### MULTIDISCIPLINARY CENTER FOR INTERCULTURAL AND INDIGENOUS STUDIES - ICIIS 2012-2017

**Director: Pedro Mege**

Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile

Associated Institutions: Universidad Academia Humanismo Cristiano, Universidad Diego Portales

This Center aims to make a contribution through high level studies on issues of concern for indigenous peoples in Chile. It maintains an interdisciplinary and comprehensive approach that is focused on intercultural dialogue and coexistence. Research will address relations between indigenous peoples and Chilean society in four areas: public policies, territory and development, cultural heritage, and subjectivity and identity, with a multidisciplinary outlook and focusing on intercultural relations.

### CENTER FOR CLIMATE SCIENCE AND RESILIENCE - (CR)2 2012-2017

**Director: Laura Gallardo**

Universidad de Chile

Associated Institutions: Universidad Austral de Chile, Universidad de Concepción

Research will focus on the variability and scarcity of Chile's water resources, growing urban development, and rapid changes in soil use in the Central and Southern Regions of the country. There will be five main research lines: biogeochemistry; climate dynamics; ecosystem services; human dimensions modeling; and observation systems.

### NATIONAL RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT OF NATURAL DISASTERS - RCINDIM 2012-2017

**Director: Luis Cifuentes**

Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile

Associated Institutions: Universidad Católica del Norte, Universidad Andrés Bello, Universidad Santa María

The Center's primary objective will be to develop, integrate, and convey knowledge that will allow the creation -in Chile- of a system that can respond effectively to an extreme natural phenomenon. This should be achieved through the preparation, response, recovery, and mitigation stages. It is an integrating and interdisciplinary research initiative, which will contribute to address the need of mitigating the tremendous impact of natural disasters on Chilean society, physical infrastructure, and economic development. That will be the basis to generate new knowledge and technology that will enhance the understanding and mitigation of the global implications of natural disasters, along with the establishment of territories that are less exposed and of communities that are more resilient.

### CENTER FOR SOLAR ENERGY RESEARCH - SERC CHILE 2012-2017

**Director: Rodrigo Palma**

Universidad de Chile

Associated Institutions: Universidad Adolfo Ibáñez, Universidad Santa María, Universidad de Tarapacá, Universidad de Antofagasta, Universidad de Concepción, Fundación Chile

The goal is to carry out multidisciplinary studies on existing barriers that prevent the development of solar energy. There will be six lines of research: solar energy in industry and mining; high power electric systems that include solar energy; solar energy coordination systems for rural and urban communities; solar energy storage; solar water treatment; and economic, social, and regulatory aspects for the development of solar energy.

### CENTER FOR SUSTAINABLE URBAN DEVELOPMENT - CEDEUS 2012-2017

**Director: Jonathan Barton**

Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile

Associated Institution: Universidad de Concepción

The purpose of the Center is to generate empirical research that will aim to improve public policies and planning instruments, and to integrate innovating technologies, experimental interventions, and participation in urban issues. The Center will seek to enhance the quality of life in cities, and to reduce the per capita consumption of resources, the emission of pollutants, and the generation of waste.

### INTERDISCIPLINARY CENTER FOR SUSTAINABLE AQUACULTURE RESEARCH - INCAR 2012-2017

**Director: Renato Quiñones**

Universidad de Concepción

Associated Institutions: Universidad Andrés Bello, Universidad Austral de Chile  
Research will focus on salmonid and mollusk farming, and on strengthening diversification in this industry. Studies will be conducted on adaptive biological mechanisms that are required for the development of endemic species aquaculture (both large and small-scale).

## CURRENTLY FUNDED RESEARCH CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE

### CENTER FOR GENOMA REGULATION (CRG) 2010-2015

Director: Miguel Allende, Universidad de Chile

This Center is a nationwide reference for Molecular Biology. It has research capabilities for gene regulation, using state-of-the-art technology in Genomics, Bioinformatics, and Mathematical Modeling.  
[www.genomacrg.cl](http://www.genomacrg.cl)

### CENTER FOR EXCELLENCE IN GEOTHERMIA IN THE ANDES (CEGA) 2010-2015

Director: Diego Morata, Universidad de Chile

The Center's goal is to generate the necessary scientific knowledge to make geothermal energy a sustainable, friendly, and competitive resource in Chile. To this end, the Center provides postgraduate training, analysis, research cooperation, and the development of new geothermal assessment and exploration methods.  
[www.cega.ing.uchile.cl](http://www.cega.ing.uchile.cl)

## FONDAP RESEARCH CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE COMPLETED

### CENTER FOR INTERDISCIPLINARY ADVANCED RESEARCH IN MATERIALS SCIENCE (CIMAT) 1999-2009

Director: Sr. Fernando Lund, Universidad de Chile  
[www.cimat.cl](http://www.cimat.cl)

### CENTER FOR CELULAR REGULATION AND PATHOLOGY (CRCP) 1999-2009

Director: Nivaldo Inestrosa, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile  
[www.fondap-crcp.cl](http://www.fondap-crcp.cl)

### CENTER FOR MATHEMATICAL MODELING (CMM) 2000-2010

Director: Jaime San Martín, Universidad de Chile  
[www.cmm.uchile.cl](http://www.cmm.uchile.cl)

### CENTER FOR ASTROPHYSICS (CENASTRO) 2002-2012

Director: Guido Garay, Universidad de Chile  
[www.cenastro.cl](http://www.cenastro.cl)

### CENTER FOR OCEANOGRAPHIC RESEARCH IN THE EASTERN SOUTH PACIFIC (COPAS) 2002--2012

Director: Carina Lange, Universidad de Concepción  
[www.copas.udec.cl](http://www.copas.udec.cl)

### CENTER FOR ADVANCED STUDIES IN ECOLOGY AND BIODIVERSITY (CASEB) 2002-2012

Director: Fabián Jaksic, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile  
[www.bio.puc.cl/caseb](http://www.bio.puc.cl/caseb)

### CENTER FOR MOLECULAR CELL STUDIES (CEMC) 2002-2012

Director: Andrés Stutzin, Universidad de Chile  
[www.cmcmed.cl](http://www.cmcmed.cl)