

Ministerio de Transportes y Telecomunicaciones

## Chile en marcha

Gobierno de Chile

# Public transport in remote and isolated territories of Chile

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4,270 km long (longest and thinnest country in the world)

16 administrative regions

Population: 17.5 million 12% rural population 40% of the population lives in Santiago Metropolitan Region

Metropolitan Region: 462 residents/km2

Magallanes Region: .0.12 residents/km2

Desert climate in the north, Mediterranean climate in the center, and steppe climate in the south Chile features every climate classification and territory spans three continents Difficult geographic conditions in Chile, especially in the southern portion of the country, make Transport connectivity difficult.

Private operators are not interested in providing connectivity services in these areas because they provide a negligent (or nonexistent) return on investment.

Puerto Edén, Magallanes Region

## **Subsidies for connectivity**

The Ministry of Transport has provided subsidized public transport for more than four decades to ensure that geographically isolated localities remain connected with their respective regional capital cities. Puerto Edén, Magallanes Region

## **Intervention of the State of Chile in the development of remote and isolated territories**



## **2009 Public Transport Subsidy Law**

The **Regional Public Transport Division**, within the Sub-Secretary of Transport, was created in response to the growing and non-deferrable need to raise the standard and quality of public Transport in regions outside of Santiago, and to promote public Transport to ensure the integrated development of all people and their communities, especially in hard-toreach isolated areas.

This law provides the Ministry of Transport and Telecommunications (MTT) with almost **US\$350** million per year to **guarantee territorial** 



## Methodology to target, select, and prioritize Transport services in isolated areas

Methodology to Identify Isolated Areas for Transport Subsidies This updated methodology allows the MTT to **identify, categorize**, **characterize**, **and prioritize isolated populated centers** based on their degree of access to a series of basic services.

Uses a geographic information system to determine which locations are considered isolated with respect to access to basic services Two main steps:

1) Calculate travel times from each location to the destination that offers the basic service(s) under consideration

2) Prioritize the degree of isolation based on estimated travel times to different services

Which services?

#### Public transport

- Education
- > Health

- Supply and sale of products
- Financial and administrative
- Special population services

## Methodology of targeting, selection and prioritization for transport services in isolated areas





# 724 connectivity services operating throughout the country:



## **Vehicle fleet used to service subsidized routes**



## Subsidized services viewer (Geo-portal)



# **Public investment in connectivity services**

in million USD, 2010-2018

#### ISOLATED AREAS, RURAL CONNECTIVITY, AND EXTREMELY ISOLATED TERRITORY





#### Public investment in connectivity services in million USD, 2010-2018





Source: Ministry of Transport and Telecommunications, Chile.

Likewise, 70% of the services are concentrated in the southernmost part of our country, from the Araucanía region to Magallanes and the Chilean Antarctic.



## **Studies developed**

Study	Objective	Conclusions
2009, "Quality Analysis of Services that Receive a Subsidy for Transport in Isolated Areas"	Analyze and diagnose the quality of provision of different types of connectivity services, especially in the southern regions of the country.	Subsidized Transport services generally meet an acceptable level of quality in terms of improving user connectivity; however, quality indicators regarding frequency, capacity, and comfortability of services showed generally unfavorable results.
2010, "Evaluation of Results of Services of the Subsidy Program in Isolated Areas"	Evaluate the results obtained by the implementation of the Subsidy Program in Isolated Areas.	Subsidies indeed facilitate the connectivity of residents of isolated areas, allowing broader and better access to public services, ensuring a better quality of life for the inhabitants; particularly, through access to health-related services and through greater contact with other public services and, consequently, with the state.
2011, "User Satisfaction Perception Study Regarding Subsidized Services of the Subsidized Program in Isolated Areas"	Design, adjust, and apply a satisfaction measurement model for beneficiaries of the Public Transport Subsidy Program in isolated areas.	On a scale of 1 to 7 (a traditional evaluation scale in Chile), the level of satisfaction of the users of these services corresponded to 6.13. The study captured the most- and least-valued aspects by the users of each service, which has made it possible to define targeted improvements for users.

## **Studies developed**

However, as of today, a specific measurement or methodology has not been developed to quantitatively establish how the isolated areas subsidy program has impacted, for example, the economic development in affected towns or economic outcomes that their residents experience as a result of improvements in connectivity services.

## Ministry-wide policy strengths

- There is a robust methodology to analyze territorial isolation, which allows the Ministry to precisely identify the degree of isolation in each locality, based on available Transport options
- The National Merchant Marine Law obligates the MTT to intervene and operate those maritime routes that private companies will not operate
- Law 20378 provides a legal framework for subsidizing services in isolated areas. This legal basis ensures program stability over time and provides guarantees of certainty for both private operators and bidders, and for program beneficiaries
- The Ministry focuses not only on expanded service coverage, but also on a progressive improvement in quality standards throughout the country

# Needs for future policy improvements

- Competitiveness of bidding processes: RFPs for maritime, lake, river, and air services receive a low number of interested and qualified bidders
- Develop a methodology to establish baseline analysis, which allows comparisons against the original situation of the localities over time
- On-board vehicle technology must be improved in order to clearly distinguish routes, and generate accurate subsidy payment indicators
- Periodically update and improve auxiliary methodological tools to flexibly incorporate new information or new parameters based on available data and best practices

Around 400,000 residents throughout the country benefit from increased access to services and economic opportunities

## Subsidized fares for overland Transport services

JUNAEB

Socoro

## **Tourism promotion, especially in the far south of Chile**

DON-FELIPE PMD-5817

# **ROUTE CASE STUDIES**

OLIVIA PM07035

## **Bimodal Route**

The Puerto Montt-Chaitén bimodal route offers a combined and integrated overland (bus) & maritime (barge) connection for passengers and cargo between **Puerto Montt and the province** of Palena, located in the southeastern portion of the Los Lagos Region in the far south of the country.



## **Bimodal Route**





#### **Northern Coastal Route**

This 28-hour route spans 240 nautical miles and visits 10 ports of call in southern Chile. It connects various localities in the northern coast of Aysén, many of which are only accessible by boat.

In February 2015, the Queulat Barge was inaugurated along this route. Built in 2014, it increased passenger capacity to 285.

Future plans include incorporating a faster vessel to reduce the travel time.



#### **Northern Coastal Route**





## Chile via Chile

#### Maritime Service Yungay - Caleta Tortel Puerto Edén - Puerto Natales

This service will connect communities in the Aysén and Magallanes Regions, which can only be connected through Chilean maritime territory. An overland connection is only possible via Argentina.

The 145-nautical mile trip requires a navigable travel time of over 40 hours.



## Chile via Chile











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## **Promotion of tourism in southern Chile**

#### **Torres del Paine, Magallanes**

## **Improved connectivity for the residents** of isolated areas throughout the country

San Pedro de Atacama, Antofagasta Region

## **Increased opportunities for all residents**

Tortel, Aysén Region

## **Quality of life improvements for rural residents**

## Valle de Elqui, Coquimbo Region

## **Visviri-Arica Service**

**Operating at more than** 4,000 meters above sea level, two isolated corridors are served by a bus route that benefits 1,600 residents in the communities of Visviri, Huayancayane, and **General Lagos. These** communities, located in the extreme northern Chilean plateau, receive a connection with the regional capital of Arica.



Tacora Volcano, located along the subsidized Visviri route. Arica y Parinacota Region

Cunco, La Araucanía Region



