Background

In the past couple of years, the energy prices in the Chilean market has plummeted dramatically. This new market environment has imposed a great challenge to hydropower developers in the country. The current energy prices resulted in many projects put into stand-by as they are not economically attractive anymore.

With low energy prices in Norway, and similar climatic conditions, the Norwegian know-how on developing hydropower projects under these conditions can be relevant for the Chilean developers to refloat their projects.

In this regard, the main goal of this thesis work is to study the potential for developing a hydropower project in a glacial river basin in the Chilean Andes using hydrological models, simulating the effects of climate change and applying other practices and criterions traditionally used in Norway.