ABSTRACT

Ecuador has a mining potential that has not yet reached an appropriate development; in

some cases, the exploitation of materials is carried out in the open pit. One of the most

important stages is the monitoring of land displacements in the removal of materials. The

present work was to quantify the displacement terrain using the Differential

Interferometry SAR (D-InSAR) technique from radar images of the Sentinel-1 platform

in the mining area "Concesión Minera Ashpachaca." Interferograms of the mine area were

created using the SNAP software and the SNAPHU algorithm, which allowed us to

estimate the displacement suffered in the 2015-2019 period.

The applied methodology starts from obtaining satellite images through the Alaska

Facilities Service (ASF) website, followed by processing using the SAR Differential

Interferometry technique. Finally, through the aggregation of interferograms, the annual

ground displacements were calculated. At the pixel level, the maximum estimated values

within the study area were -0,27 m, -0,11 m, -0,26 m, -0,26 m, -0,19 m, for the years

2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019 respectively. The total volume of material displaced to the

study area was 39,435 m3, 13,941 m3, 33,219 m3, 34,778 m3, 20,506 m3. For the years

2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, respectively. The SAR Differential Interferometry

technique seems to have great potential for estimating land displacement and monitoring

mining activities.

Keywords: Removal, Displacement, SAR Differential Interferometry, Concession, Mine,

Interferogram.

Reviewed by:

Mgs. Marcela González Robalino

English Professor

c.c. 0603017708