

# **The role of the Béni floodplain on the chemical weathering fluxes in the upper Madeira basin, Bolivia**

J. GAILLARDET<sup>1</sup>, L. MAURICE-BOURGOIN<sup>2</sup>,  
J.L. GUYOT<sup>3</sup>, A. DOSSETO<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Laboratoire de Géochimie et Cosmochimie, IPGP-CNRS UMR 7579, 4 Place Jussieu, 75252 Paris cedex 05, France

<sup>2</sup>Observatoire Midi Pyrénées, LMTG, UMR 5563 IRD/CNRS/UPS, 14 Avenue Edouard Belin, 31400 Toulouse, France

<sup>3</sup>Institut de Recherche pour le Développement, Casilla 18 1209, Lima 18, Peru

<sup>4</sup>Institute GEMOC Key Centre, Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences, Macquarie University, Sydney, NSW 2109, Australia

On a global scale, several authors have reported good correlations between physical erosion fluxes and chemical weathering fluxes (Gaillardet et al., 1999). This linkage have several origins, one being that the active floodplains can act as a biogeochemical reactor in which the sediments produced in mountainous zones and transported by the rivers, once deposited in foreland basins, are deeply weathered.

We have tested this idea in the floodplain of the Rio Beni, in the upper Madeira Basin, in Bolivia.