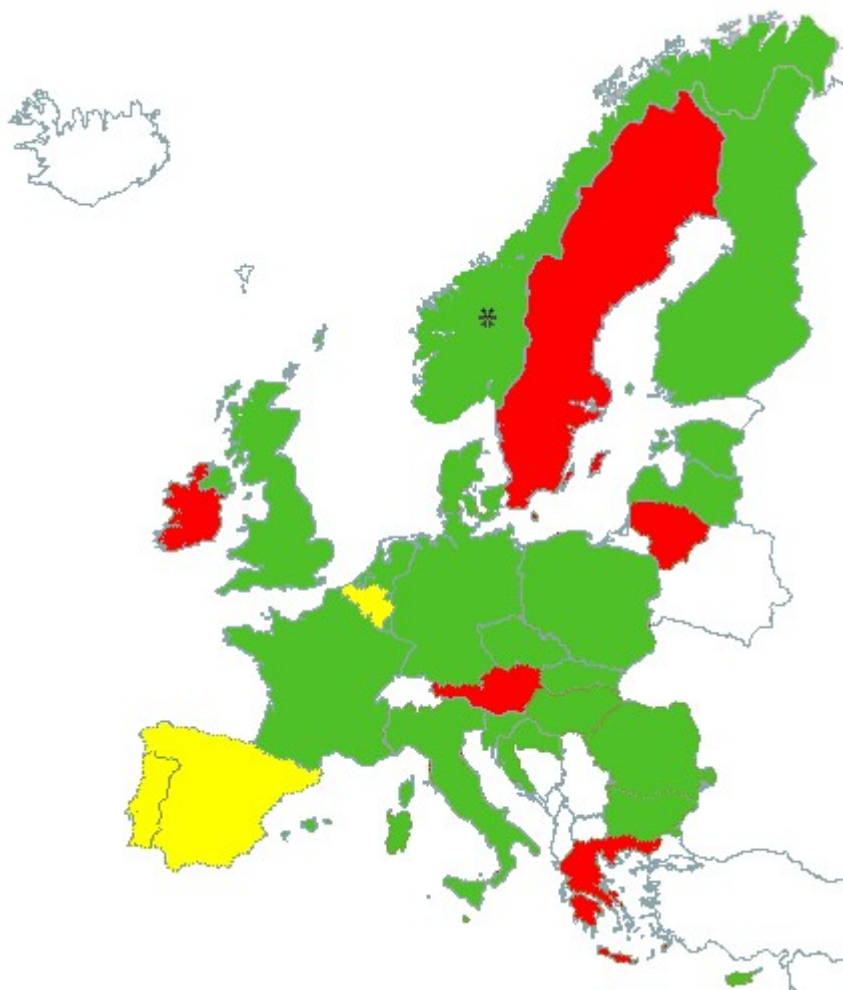


**Part III – Utilization and management of hydrothermal resources**



**Geothermal contexts of River Basin Management Plans and other (transboundary) groundwater management initiatives**

# Status of implementation of the Water Framework Directive in the EU Member States ([ec.europa.eu](http://ec.europa.eu))



## Second River Basin Management Plans

**GREEN** - all adopted  
**YELLOW** - part of it adopted  
**RED** - not yet adopted

# A number of international River Basin Districts have also published River Basin Management Plans

[Danube](#)

[Rhine](#)

[Elbe](#)

[Ems](#)

[Finnish-Norwegian International River Basin District](#)

[Meuse](#)

[Scheldt / l'Escaut](#)

[Odra](#)

[Sava Commission \(ISRBC\)](#)



**Sturgeon**

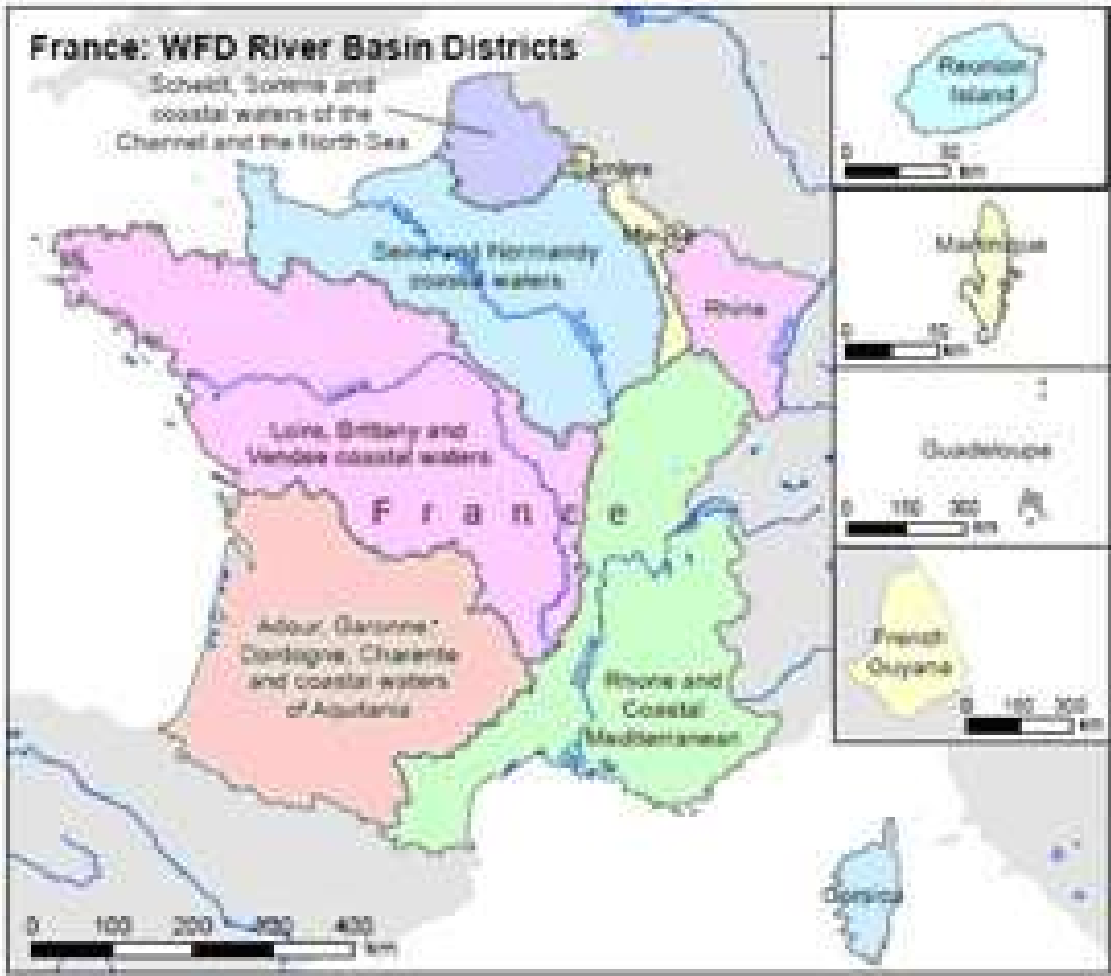
# Groundwater body delineation methodologies and assessments



**Still huge differences between groundwater body delineation methodologies and assessments**

**No adaptable management plan**

# France



## France (EU COM(2012) 670 report)

**2.1 Main strengths** The French RBMPs have gone through an **extensive co-ordination process between the different sectors and stakeholders involved** and a wide process of consultation with the public. Categorisation determined under the EC Comparative study of pressures and measures in the major river basin management plans in the EU (Task 1b: International co-ordination mechanisms). There are a number of national guidelines that have been extensively developed for most of the WFD topics (monitoring, ecological and chemical assessment methods, groundwater assessment, exemptions). **Substantial efforts have been made to integrate the WFD principles into the water management.** A good understanding of the work needed for the proper implementation of the WFD has been demonstrated, and there has been continuous progress after the adoption of the first RBMPs (ecological and chemical assessment methods, designation of HMWBs, monitoring, etc.)

**2.2 Main weaknesses** There are significant gaps in the development of assessment methods for the biological quality elements in this first RBMP. The biological assessment methods for rivers are significantly more developed than those for other water type. The assessment methods for supporting quality elements on physico-chemical and hydromorphological characteristics are generally only partially developed. For most of the French RBDs, the assessment of chemical status has been based on the Annex I of Environmental Quality Standards (EQS) Directive 2008/105/EC, but not for all. Furthermore, different substances have been used in the different plans (and not all the 41 substances of Annex I) for the assessment of chemical status of water bodies. For these reasons, the methods for the assessment of chemical status are very unclear, including which substances have been used, and the reasons for the selection of certain specific substances. There are a relatively high number of **exemptions under Article 4(4) and 4(5)** based on disproportionate costs, for which no clear justification has been provided in the RBMPs. **Water services have been interpreted differently in the French RBDs.** Some RBDs have a broad approach, which takes into account all possible abstraction, storage, treatment, impoundment etc. In other RBDs the approach has been narrower, taking into account public and self-water abstraction and wastewater treatment for all sectors, as well as irrigation. Finally, in some RBDs, the approach has been even more limited, taking into account only abstraction and wastewater treatment for households, industry and abstraction for agriculture.

## France (EU COM(2012) 670 report)



**Influence of public consultation in the adopted plans: websites have been established to provide information on the replies received and the assessment of those replies, and to make the opinions of different regional and local authorities publicly available. The main changes that such consultation has brought about relate to changes in the selection of measures, or the modification of a specific measure, and to the provision of additional information. To a lesser extent, the consultation has resulted in methodologies being changed, further research being carried out or commitments being made for actions in the next cycle.**

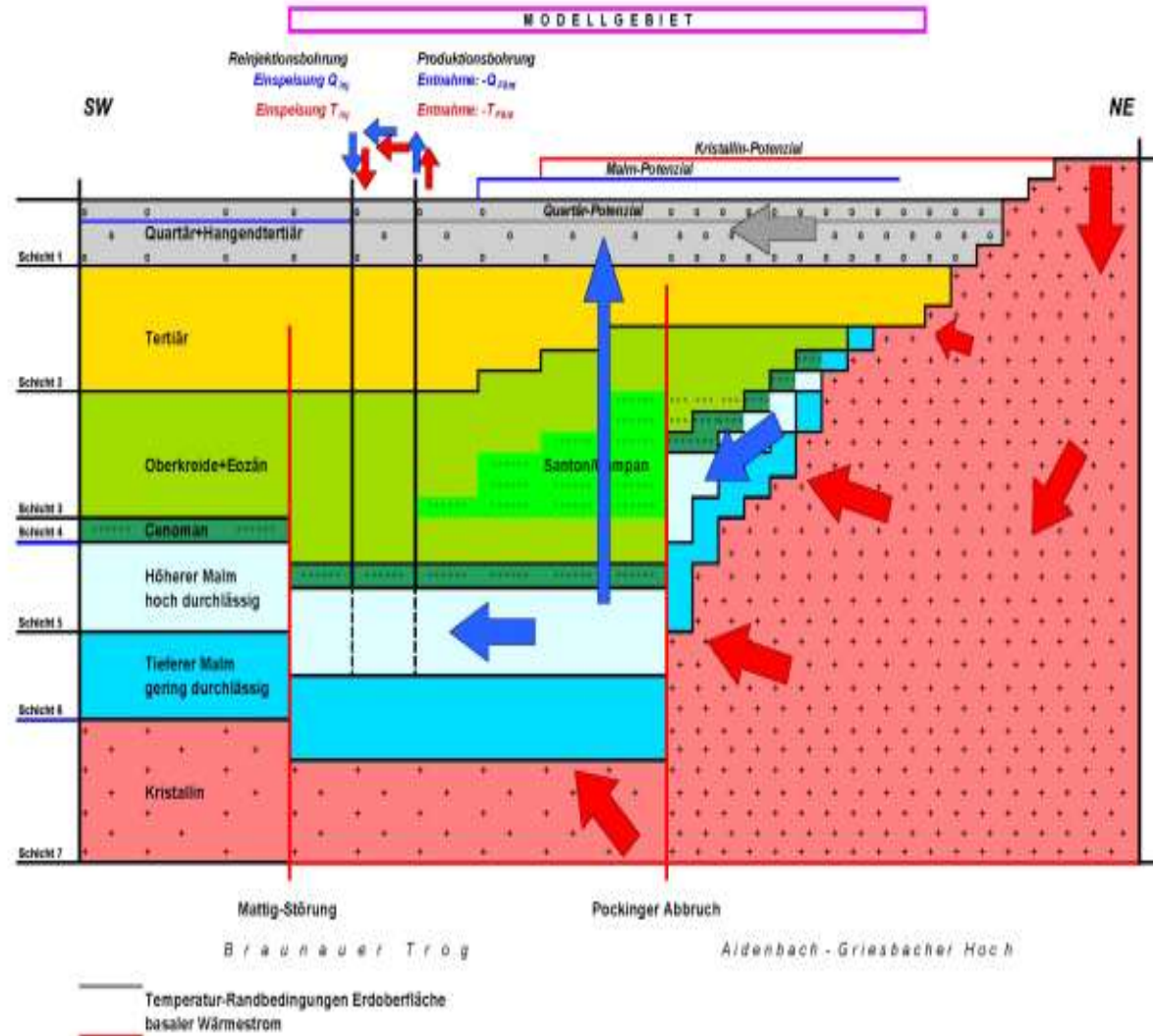
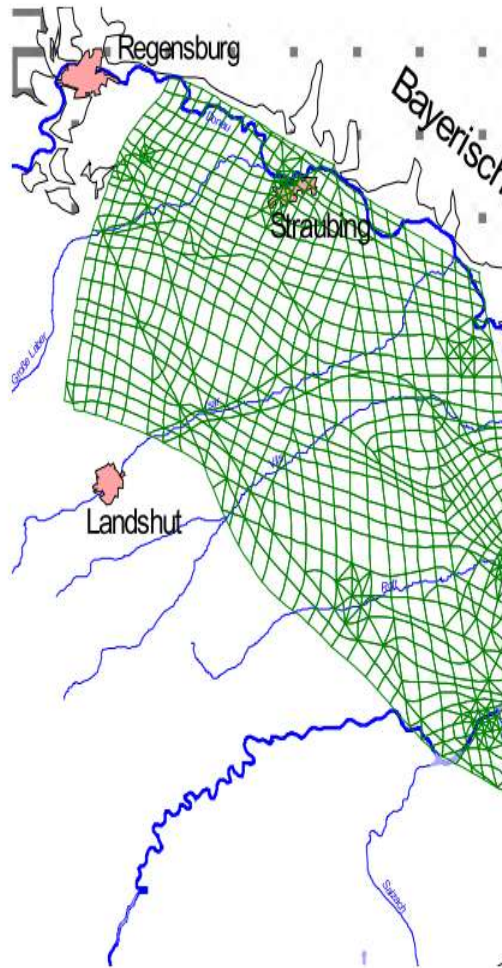
## France (EU COM(2012) 670 report)



**On international co-operation, there has been some sort of co-operation with Belgium (no agreement or plan made, but existing communication, no information on transboundary groundwater bodies), in the Rhone (France has not identified this RBD as international - it however shares a small part of its basin with neighbouring countries including Switzerland, Italy and Spain - under the CIPEL discussions have taken place on monitoring programme - no details provided), and in the Meuse and in the Rhine (for both, since exchanges between groundwater layers are limited, it was suggested to limit international co-ordination to a bilateral or trilateral technique at the border zones where exchanges are significant: localisation of the sites, the piezometric evaluation at both sides of the boundary, the frequency of measurements is discussed). The level of international co-operation is not clear for the Sambre.**



# Good example of common management of transboundary hydro geothermal resources Lower Bavaria – Upper Austrian



Vollhofer, O. and Samek, M. (2008) German-Austrian Cooperation in Modelling a Transboundary Deep Groundwater Body, IWA World Water Congress and Exhibition, Vienna 2008

## Existing initiatives, programmes



**Still huge need for management policy directives**

**ISMAR9 (June 2016, Mexico City): CALL TO ACTION  
SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT POLICY DIRECTIVES**

**In spite of the fact**



# IAH - Strategic Overview Papers

## Key messages

## Priority actions

- Food Security & Groundwater
- **The Energy Sector & Groundwater**
- Resilient Cities & Groundwater
- Ecosystem Conservation & Groundwater
- Human Health & Groundwater
- Global Change & Groundwater

International Association of Hydrogeologists  
Strategic Overview Series  
**FOOD SECURITY & GROUNDWATER**

International Association of Hydrogeologists  
Strategic Overview Series  
**THE ENERGY SECTOR & GROUNDWATER**

International Association of Hydrogeologists  
Strategic Overview Series  
**RESILIENT CITIES & GROUNDWATER**

International Association of Hydrogeologists  
Strategic Overview Series  
**ECOSYSTEM CONSERVATION & GROUNDWATER**

International Association of Hydrogeologists  
Strategic Overview Series  
**HUMAN HEALTH & GROUNDWATER**

International Association of Hydrogeologists  
Strategic Overview Series  
**GLOBAL CHANGE & GROUNDWATER**

**KEY MESSAGES**

- food production requires large quantities of water, with groundwater resources providing more than 40% of all water used globally for irrigated agriculture
- groundwater has proved to be a critical input for securing improved crop yields and enabling the 210% increase in food production achieved during the 'green revolution' of 1970-2000
- during the past 30-40 years there has been a remarkable level of investment in private wastewater construction for agricultural irrigation, because groundwater availability allows higher crop yields and reduces losses per unit of water
- groundwater storage is very large but current withdrawal rates for irrigated agriculture in many arid areas are not physically sustainable, resulting in long-term (semi-permanent) depletion of aquifer reserves at rates in excess of 120 km<sup>3</sup>/a
- land-use practices affect groundwater recharge rates and quality, with intensification of cropping widely leading to diffuse pollution of ground water by plant nutrients, salinity and some pesticides
- there is a pressing need to enable groundwater professionals, together with water resource managers and irrigation engineers, to identify trans-sectoral governance and management responses for improving resource sustainability

*This Series is designed both to inform and hydrogeological science*

**KEY MESSAGES**

- the energy sector interacts with groundwater in many ways and applied hydrogeological science is required to understand and manage the linkage
- this is highly relevant to the sustainable development of hydro-geochemical energy (particularly 'very low carbon') resources used for gas cooling/heating, and to the nuclear power sub-sector for power station siting and radioactive waste disposal
- in non-renewable hydrocarbon development the principal concern is to prevent shallow aquifer pollution with formation brines, hydrocarbon compounds and fracking fluids
- injection into gas and oil wells is important for hydrocarbon waste management, but knowledge of the 'near-surface' zone between aquifers required for groundwater supply and deeper hydrocarbon-producing zones is generally inadequate
- globally groundwater pumping, useful for irrigated agriculture, is a major energy consumer and much more effort needs to be put into reducing inefficient use due to aquifer depletion and inappropriate wellhead design
- effective land management for multiple groundwater resource protection is an urgent need to avoid the large energy cost associated with wastewater treatment to remove pollutants such as nitrates, pesticides and industrial chemicals
- groundwater is often the 'invisible link' between surface levels of the urban infrastructure, leading to affect 'everybody' whilst all too often being the responsibility of 'no body'

*This Series is designed both to inform and hydrogeological science*

**KEY MESSAGES**

- groundwater is a major source of urban health and aquifer storage represents a key resource for achieving water-supply security under climate change and extended drought
- private wastewater construction for urban health will supply fresh to maintain an 'open strategy' during periods of inadequate utility water service, but then wastewater will often continue for years as a 'cost-reduction strategy'
- urbanisation greatly modifies the 'groundwater cycle' with marked impacts – including periods of declining aquifer pressures (which can cause land subsidence with building and infrastructure damage) and periods of rising water-table (which can lead to groundwater flooding with public health hazards and infrastructure damage)
- in the developing world, health sanitation can prevent a significant groundwater quality hazard (which needs more proactive and integrated management)
- groundwater is often the 'invisible link' between surface levels of the urban infrastructure, leading to affect 'everybody' whilst all too often being the responsibility of 'no body'

*This Series is designed both to inform and hydrogeological science*

**KEY MESSAGES**

- groundwater-dependent ecosystems (GDEs) comprise a complex subset of ecosystems of major significance in the conservation of biodiversity – including many vital sites covered by the Ramsar Convention and many others that remain unprotected
- GDEs have direct value for the human population from fish and plant production, water storage and purification, and indirect value in terms of landscape and/or habitat wellbeing
- there is a need to identify GDEs under three main types – aquatic, terrestrial, subterranean – and improve understanding of their relationship with the physical and chemical status of groundwater
- degradation of GDEs can occur because of anthropogenic modifications to aquifer flow regimes and salinisation or pollution of their groundwater
- potentially negative impacts on the functioning of GDEs from groundwater withdrawal for irrigated agriculture or urban water-supply need to be assessed and managed
- modest increases in groundwater salinity and/or pollution with nutrients and pesticides can drastically impact ecosystem structure and cause extirpation of key species

*This Series is designed both to inform and hydrogeological science*

**KEY MESSAGES**

- the high quality of most groundwaters, compared upon the anthropogenic capacity of subsurface strata, has long been a key factor in human health and wellbeing
- more than 10% of the world's population now rely on groundwater for their supply of drinking water – and in most circumstances a properly-located and soundly-engineered wellhead represents a low-cost, reliable and safe source
- however, a few aquifer systems are rapidly connected to the land surface, and are thus more vulnerable to pollution from most waterborne microbiological and chemical contaminants
- intensive agricultural land-use intensification employs heavy applications of nutrients and pesticides which can be leached from soils, and thus constitute the most widely-distributed groundwater pollution threat in many aquifers
- some synthetic organic chemicals are very resistant to degradation in most groundwater systems and can constitute a long-term health hazard – and this includes certain so-called 'emerging organic contaminants'
- serious natural contamination of groundwater (especially with arsenic and fluoride) can occur through rock dissolution in some situations

*This Series is designed both to inform and hydrogeological science*

**KEY MESSAGES**

- groundwater provides an excellent 'buffer' against the climatic variability of surface-water supplies (thereby supporting climate-change adaptation), because of the storage reserves of aquifer systems
- the impacts of human-induced global warming on groundwater reserves worldwide, but also a case for concern given their rapid rate of change compared to natural climate fluctuations
- paleo-environmental records reveal that major changes in groundwater systems occurred as a result of 'natural climate change' over the past 10,000 - 500,000 years, and that remarkable fluctuations in the rate and stability of recharge have occurred in the last 50-100 years
- some anthropogenic land-use changes have already caused large impacts on groundwater, with intensification of agricultural production in response to growth of global population and of food demand, being the largest driver
- depletion of groundwater resources (since the 1950s, primarily by wastewater pumping for irrigated agriculture, but also indirectly by a net transfer of water from land to sea, contributing to sea-level rise)

*This Series is designed both to inform professionals in other sectors of any interactions with groundwater resources and hydrogeological science, and to guide IAH members in their outreach to related sectors.*

How do global changes in climate and land-use relate to groundwater?

Groundwater (contained in sediments and rocks) constitutes the planet's predominant reserve of fresh water, commonly with storage times from decades to centuries and millennia. Groundwater resources thus provide an excellent 'buffer' against the effects of climate variability on surface-water supplies, because of the generally large and widely-distributed storage reserves of aquifer systems. But questions arise as to how naturally resilient are groundwater reserves themselves to global change, and whether we are doing enough to help conserve and protect them.

Groundwater flows into and out of aquifer systems in the subsurface, with their storage being augmented or depleted as a result of changes in this balance, which varies temporally and is controlled by both natural conditions and human activities, such as:

- inflows in recharge areas – mostly from infiltration of excess rainfall and surface-water bodies naturally and as a result of agricultural irrigation practices (and more locally of seepage from urban water-main leaks and wastewater disposal)



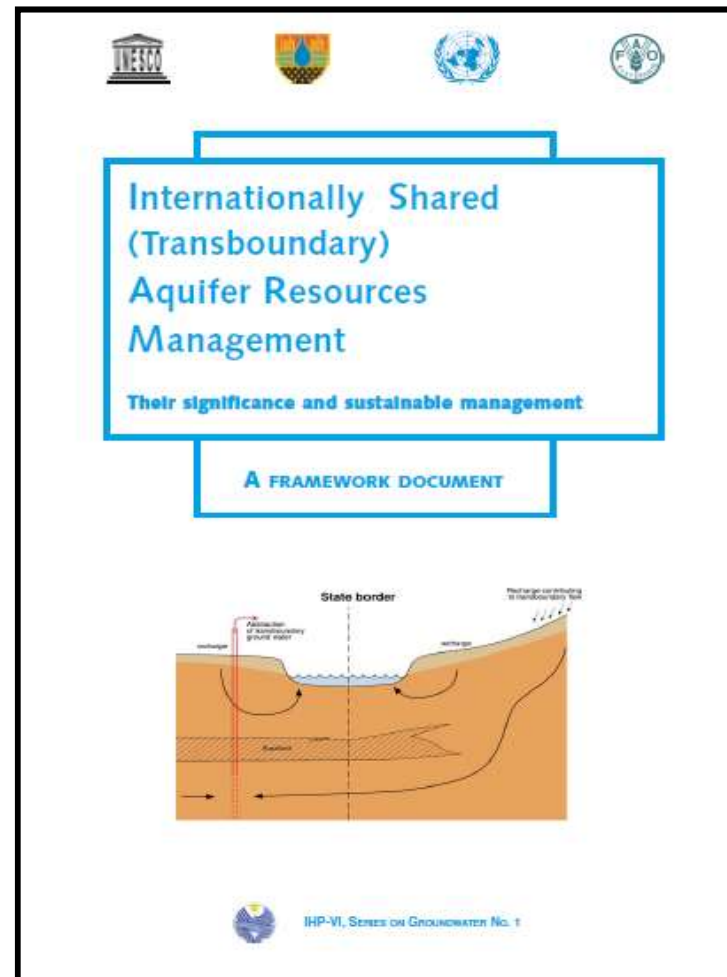
## Existing initiatives, programmes

## UNESCO-IHP- Intergovernmental Council Resolution XIV-12

**Year 2000  
Launch of the  
ISARM Initiative**



**Environmental aspects  
Institutional aspects  
Socio-economic aspects  
National and International Laws  
Scientific-Hydrogeological scope**



# Transboundary Water Assessment Programme



A global baseline assessment to identify and evaluate changes in transboundary water systems.



- First structured & publically accessible database on transboundary aquifers
- Participatory approach unlocked groundwater data from national level and triggered cooperation between countries

Guidelines for multidisciplinary assessment of transboundary aquifers

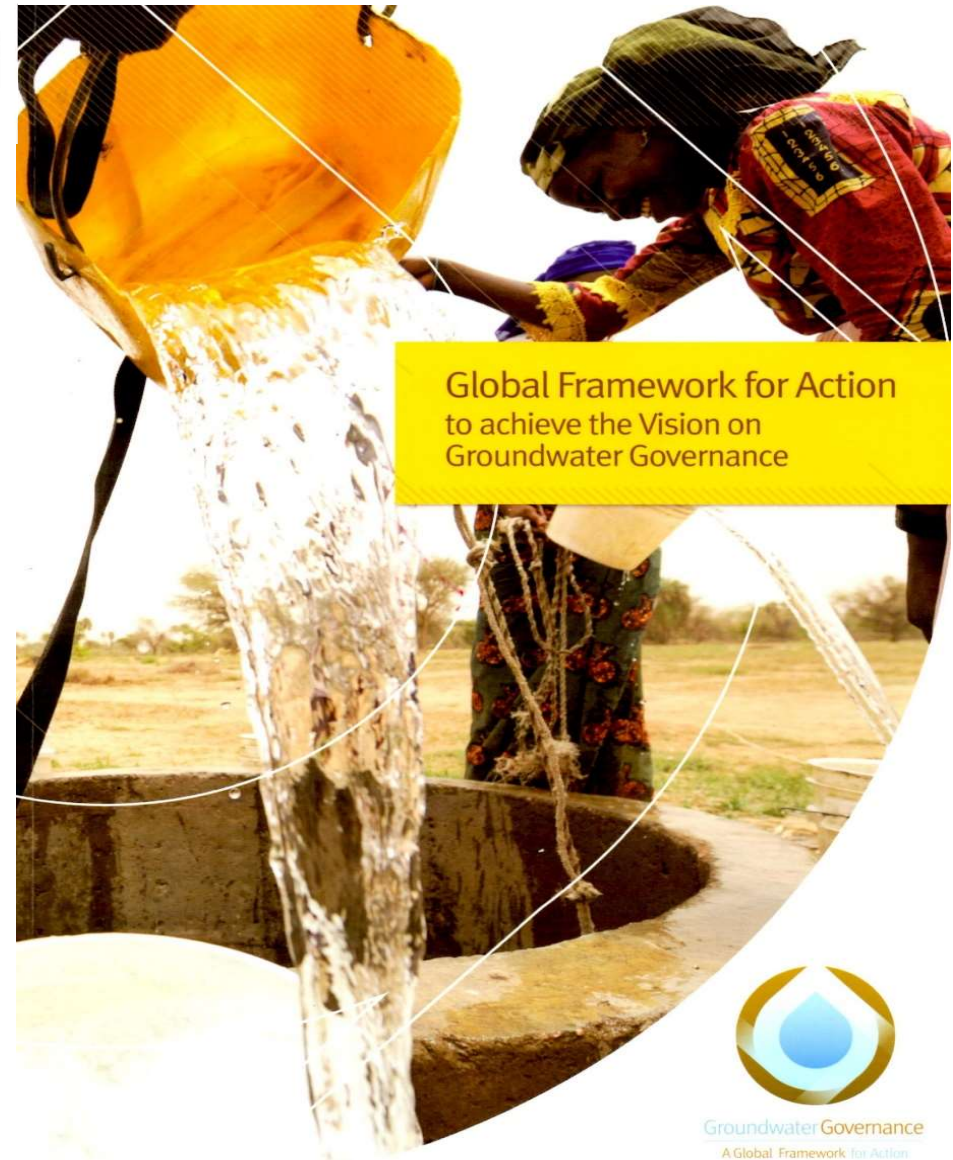
The final guidelines to be extended with the **Benchmarking methodology** developed within the **Transenergy project**



# A global framework for country action Groundwater Governance



- **TAILOR ACTION TO CONTEXT:**  
adaptable framework not simple recipe
  - **BUILD LINKAGES:**  
inside and outside water sector
- **FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS:**  
productive incentives
  - **IMPLEMENT ADAPTIVE  
MANAGEMENT PLANS:**  
with periodic assessment (similar to  
the WFD)



Global Framework for Action  
to achieve the Vision on  
Groundwater Governance



## Conventions dealing with transboundary issues



**Water Convention** - Convention on the protection and use of transboundary watercourses and international lakes. Started as a regional convention. It was negotiated by the Member States of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) and **signed in Helsinki in 1992**. It entered into force in 1996. Promotes cooperation on transboundary surface and ground waters and strengthens their protection and sustainable management.

Signatories obliged to prevent, control and reduce transboundary impact, use transboundary waters in a reasonable and equitable way and ensure their sustainable management. Parties bordering the same transboundary waters shall cooperate by entering into specific agreements and establishing joint bodies. **Since 2013 all UN Member States can join the convention.**

**Convention on the Non-Navigational Uses of International Watercourses** - At global level. Adopted in New York in 1997. **Not yet in force!** Expanded: ILC Draft Articles on the law of transboundary aquifers adopted in 2008.

# Instruments for cooperation

## UNILC Draft Articles of The Law of Transboundary Aquifers

## UNESCO-IAH joint effort in support of the UNILC

United Nations

A/C.6/71/L.22



**General Assembly**

Distr.: Limited  
4 November 2016

Original: English

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Seventy-first session  
Sixth Committee  
Agenda item 86  
The law of transboundary aquifers

Draft resolution

The law of transboundary aquifers

*Recognizing* that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development<sup>1</sup> includes a goal on ensuring availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all,

*Noting* the establishment of the High-level Panel on Water by the Secretary-General and the President of the World Bank,

1. *Commends* to the attention of Governments the draft articles on the law of transboundary aquifers annexed to its resolution 68/118 as guidance for bilateral or regional agreements and arrangements for the proper management of transboundary aquifers;

2. *Encourages* the International Hydrological Programme of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to continue its contribution by providing further scientific and technical assistance upon the consent of the recipient State and within its mandate;



## Hydrogeology from legal perspectives

**Starting point** ... what did hydrogeologists wish to regulate.....? .....  
**'protection of an aquifer...'** Aquifer systems – the basis of the ILC Articles.  
Key features: **recharge – storage – discharge**

Legally unable to 'protect an aquifer' ... therefore we can only **regulate actions** in State A's territory, that might harm the benefit (from a common resource) in State B's territory

Thus the definition of an **aquifer** in legally binding terms is .... '(saturated) **water and the rock, which is the host**'

To be legally precise, the aquifer was defined to refer only to the water saturated portion, the rock in which this water is found, and the 'rock' below and above that, giving the upper and lower boundary (in the vertical dimension) and the area, in the horizontal dimension

Aquifers are hosts not only to fresh water, but can be also to minerals, geothermal heat, and can be a medium for quality improvements (filtration), latterly also linked with shale gas

## Building the 'science' of aquifer systems into legal articles

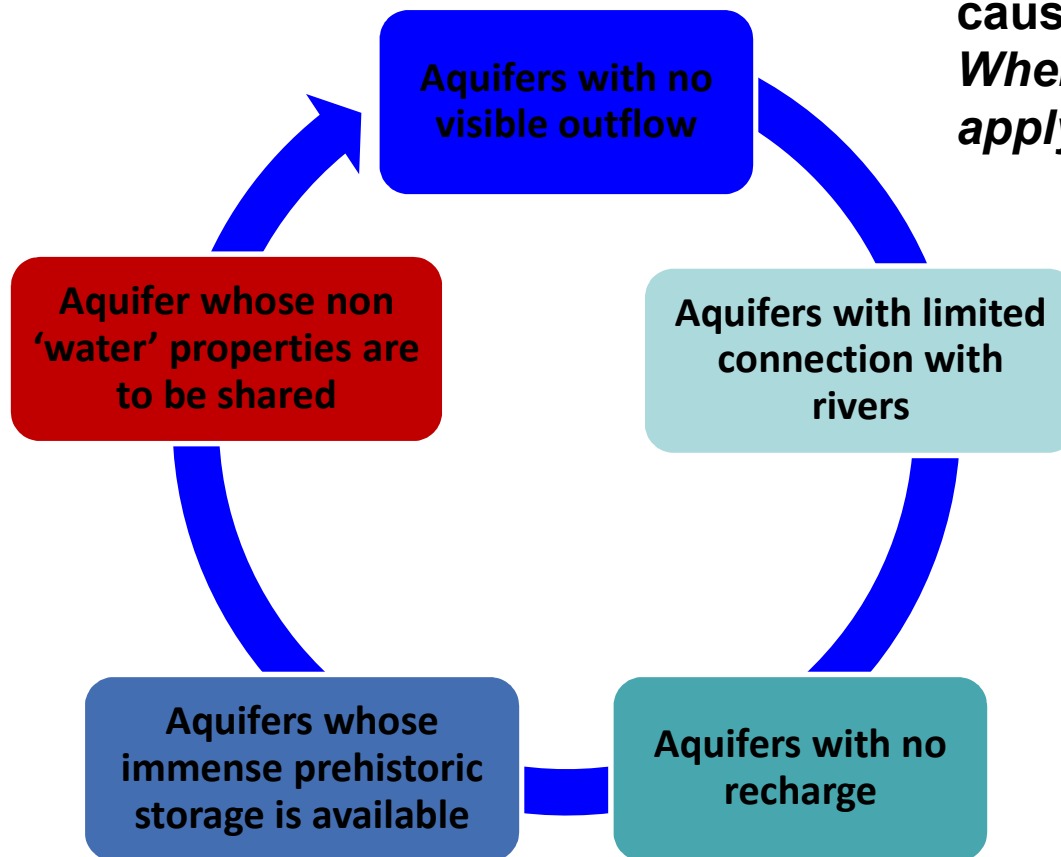


As 'recharge & discharge' areas of the legally defined aquifer cannot or can be only partly 'protected' (DWPAs, NATURA 2000, Ramsar, etc.), then we need to regulate 'other activities' that will affect the aquifer & its processes  
Since there never is an ideal aquifer, then make the scope apply to '**aquifer systems**'

With these provisions we can regulate all aspects – the saturated rock medium, the overlying / underlying formations, the recharge areas, the discharge areas & the hydrochemistry

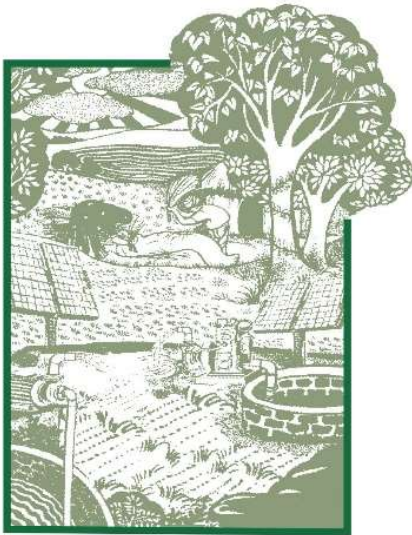
# Hydrogeologists perspective concerns over the 1997 Convention

The Draft Articles build on those aspect of the 1997 Convention that were left 'vague' and scientifically incorrect, causing practitioners some difficulty  
*Where the 1997 Convention does not apply the Draft Articles fill the gap:*



- No visible outflow – Rum-Saq; Nubian Sandstone; Guarani
- Limited connection with rivers - Pre-Tashkent; Aral Sea aquifers; Strampriet – Karoo
- No contemporary recharge - North Sahara Aquifers, Tadjoeni
- Prehistoric volume in storage –
- 'Non water' properties – geothermal & saline aquifers – Pannonian Basin, Rift Valley Aquifers, North Sea submarine aquifers

10  
2016



*Anand, the small Gujarat town that gave India its dairy cooperative movement, has now spawned a new cooperative that may well grow into a genre of its own. The Dhundi Solar Pump Irrigators' Cooperative Enterprise (SPICE) provides the proof of concept for promoting Solar Power as a Remunerative Crop (SPaRC). We argue that SPaRC presents the best chance of taming western India's groundwater anarchy, of improving the finances of power distribution companies, of curtailing the carbon footprint of our agriculture and of creating a new, risk-free source of serious cash income for India's farmers.*

**Download this highlight from <http://iwmi-tata.blogspot.in>**

**IWMI-TATA**  
Water Policy Program

## Water Policy Research **HIGHLIGHT**



### **Solar Power as Remunerative Crop**

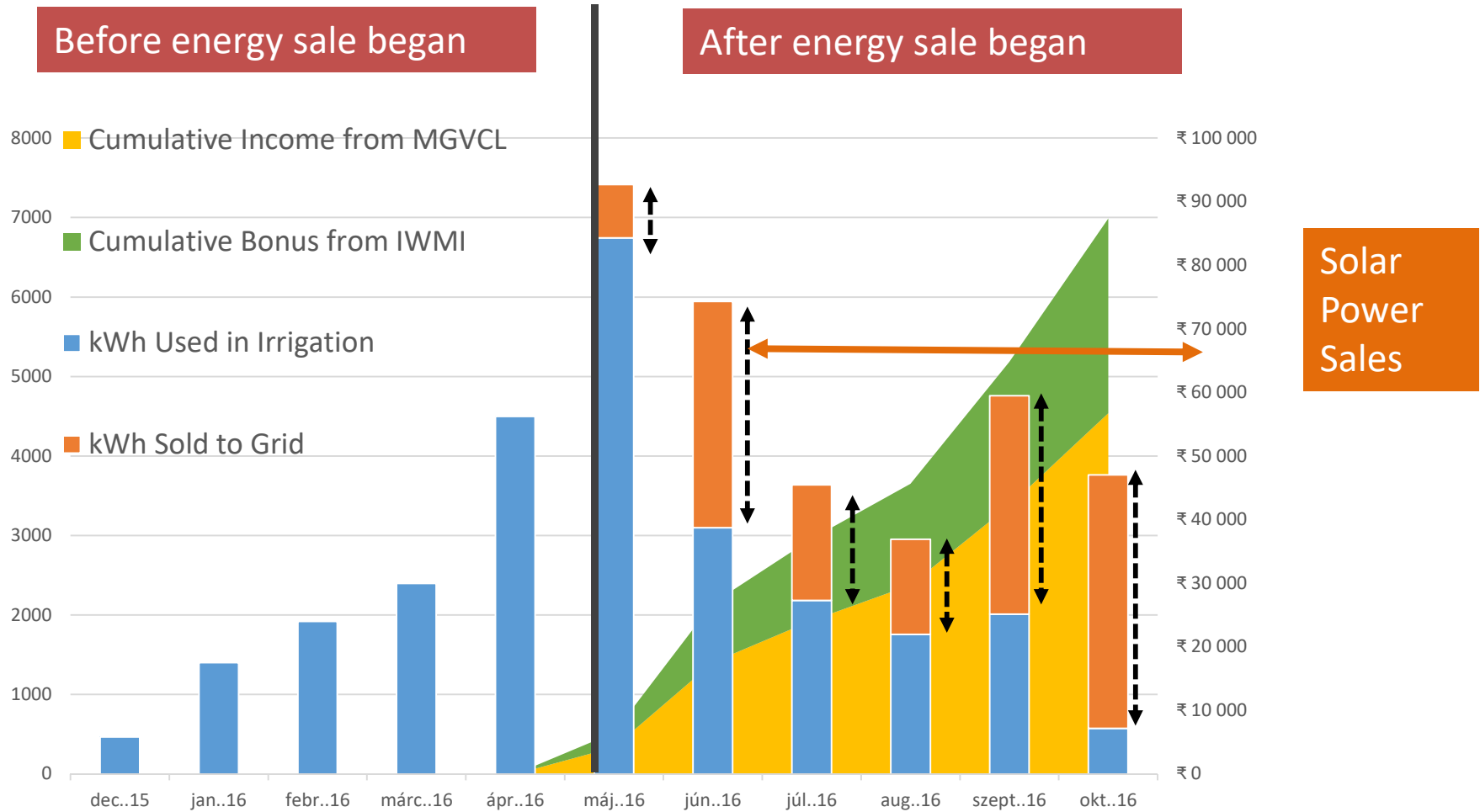


Tushaar Shah, Neha Durga,  
Shilp Verma and Rahul Rathod

**Good example**

**Food – Water – Energy nexus**

# Incentives at work in reducing abstractions triple win



**Part III – Utilization and management of hydrothermal resources**



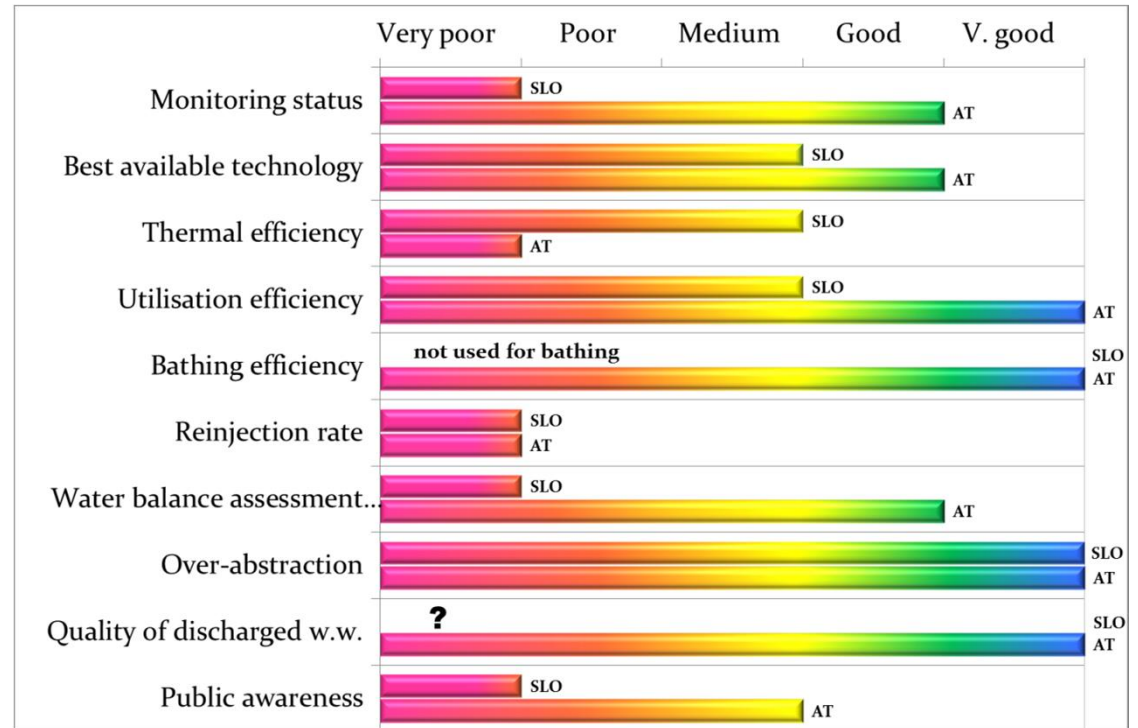
**The benchmark system  
of the TRANSENERGY project - ways  
forward in DARLINGe**

## What is benchmarking?

- **Tool to quantify and compare** the state of **geothermal water management** at different scales on an unique and harmonised way (Lemano approach)
- Developed for aquifers exploited by multiple users and/or in neighbouring countries to support water permit/concession granting process
- It comprises **a set of indicators** presented on charts using five categories (from very poor to very good) and being **calculated from allocated points** based on physical data or metadata information using transparent formulae
- The **input requires detailed data on production, monitoring and permits per a well**
- The results are generalised and should not have problems with data privacy
- As an Annex it will complement the general IGRAC Guidelines for Multidisciplinary Assessment of Transboundary Aquifers

## Existing indicators

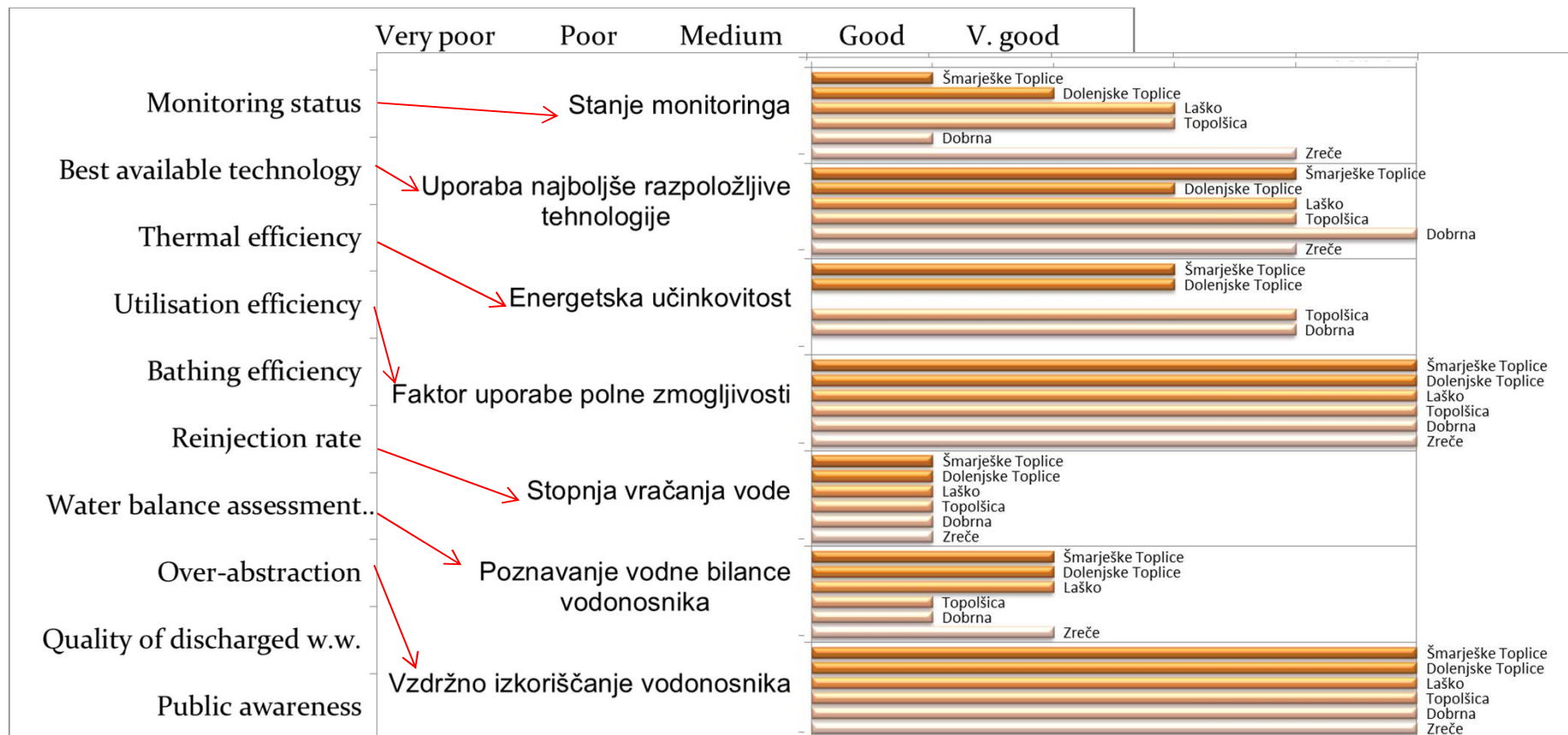
1. Monitoring status,
2. Best available technology,
3. Thermal efficiency,
4. Utilisation efficiency,
- ~~5. Bathing efficiency,~~
6. Re-injection rate,
7. Status of water balance,
8. Over-abstraction,
9. Quality of discharged thermal water,
- ~~10. Public awareness.~~





## How can we use it?

- **Users:** private-only information: comparison to regional evaluation (this is what we can offer to them in return for data – new ideas for improvement of utilisation)
- **Authorities:** joint large-scale information: regional, state, cross-border – improvement of policy



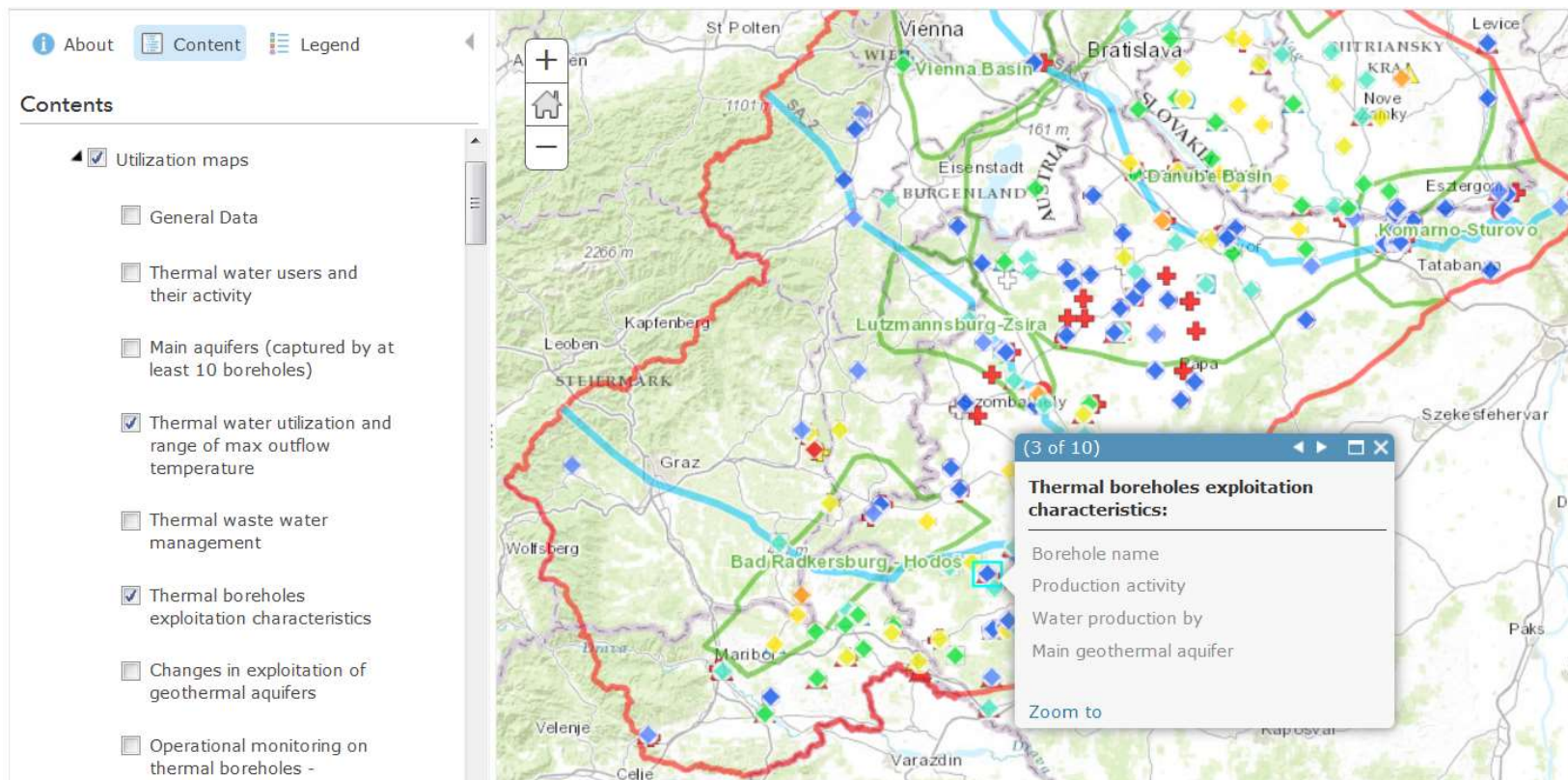
## Who can use it?

### Target groups:

- **Users** (possibilities for improvements, savings...)
- **Authorities** (granting water concessions, policy planning,...)
- **Research institutes** (availability of data, need for research,...)
- **Business** (free water quantities, providing monitoring equipment,...)
- **Tourists/inhabitants** (choose the most ,green‘ user, foster improvements...)

## What can be a result?

- **A manual on the use of toolbox (methodology)**
- **A summary report with charts on 3 pilot areas and transnational evaluation**
- **Point data categories at the portal (as TRANSENERGY, user database)**
- **Individual calculator and chart drawer at the portal (per aquifer, region, area)**



## Data gathering and policy



### Datasets

- **Water Framework Directive**
- **Directive on the Promotion of the Use of Energy from Renewable Sources**
- **National obligations related to monitoring**
- **EGEC recommendations for geothermal resources management**
- **Field inspections and interviews with users**
- **National datasets**
- **Field interviews with users**

## Calculation of indicators

|                                     |   |  |
|-------------------------------------|---|--|
| 1. <b>Monitoring status</b>         | $I_{MON} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n P_i}{N_{tot}}$                            | Monitoring→yearly reports→observation wells        |
| 2. <b>Best available technology</b> | $I_{BAT} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n P_i \cdot Q_i}{\sum_{i=1}^n Q_i}$         | WHD, materials, system, documentation              |
| 3. <b>Thermal efficiency</b>        | $TE = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \eta_i \cdot Q_i}{\sum_{i=1}^n Q_i} [\%]$      | Produced amount, water temp., waste water temp.    |
| 4. <b>Utilisation efficiency</b>    | $F_u = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n Q_i}{\sum_{i=1}^n Q_{cap\ i}} \cdot 100 [\%]$ | Produced amount, granted amount                    |
| 5. <b>Re-injection rate</b>         | $RI_Q = \sum_1^n \frac{Q_{reinj\ i}}{Q_i} [\%]$                         | Produced amount, reinjected amount                 |
| 6. <b>Over-abstraction</b>          | $I_{OE} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n P_i \cdot Q_i}{\sum_{i=1}^n Q_i}$          | Production changes: GWL, chem., Q                  |
| 7. <b>Status of water balance</b>   | $I_{wba} = \frac{P_i}{N_{tot}} \cdot 100 [\%]$                          | Renewable and available volume, critical point     |
| 8. <b>Public awareness</b>          | $I_{inf} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n P_i}{N_{tot}}$                            | Public data on monitoring, BAT, status, th. effic. |

$IP_i$  = number of assigned points to a geothermal object  $i$

$N_{tot}$  = total number of geothermal objects on the basin level in the investigated country

$Q_i$  = annual production rate of a geothermal object  $i$  ( $m^3/y$ )

## Developing new indicators

- ,Environmental‘ parameters supplemented by economic and social parameters
  - Weighted and grouped into Environmental, Economic and Social Capital
1. Thermal water quality (appropriate for type of use – scaling, precipitation)
  2. Unwanted bacteria in the system (clogging - Fe, for reinjection)
  3. Change in the water abstraction/energy production in the last 5 years
  4. Measures for sustainable use foreseen in the permit
  5. Waste thermal water treatment and quality (sewage systems, ecosystems)
  6. Supply problems (peak loads, leakage, unknown by-pass)
  7. Heat market demand is fulfilled
  8. More details on cascade use
  9. Price politics for permits, concessions (how are calculated per m<sup>3</sup>)
  10. Availability of management information (procedures, workshops for users...)
  11. Permits from exploration to exploitation phase (number, timing, complications)
  12. Waste thermal water monitoring and reporting (existing or not)
  13. Public awareness (questionnaires of the user’s staff and locals on the resource)

## How to start?

- Preliminary data collection → Field questionnaire
- **Definitions of thermal water**, geothermal energy resource (doublet system)
- The **threshold value** for geothermal objects to be included (also balneology):
  - water temperature: 20 °C, 30 °C, 50 °C ???
- The **areal scale** of the investigation to make data generalised enough: whole country or pilot areas with adequate number of wells/users
- The **aquifer scale** (3D): all aquifers in the area, only chosen aquifers...
- **Reference years**:
  - for production and reinjection data (2015, 2016, 2017, all ?)
  - monitoring status, water balance and over-exploitation assessment, publicity of data ... (2017, 2018 ?)
- Inclusion of inactive wells with concession permit (Q)?

## Publications



- **SZŐCS et al. 2017: Transboundary Aquifers Guidelines, to be published by IGRAC.**
- **RMAN et al. 2015: Potentials of transboundary thermal water resources in the western part of the Pannonian basin. Geothermics, 2015, 55, 88-98, doi: [10.1016/j.geothermics.2015.01.013](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.geothermics.2015.01.013).**
- **SZŐCS et al. 2015: Long-term impact of transboundary cooperation on groundwater management. European Geologist, 40, 29-33.**
- **PRESTOR et al. 2015: Benchmarking-Indicators of Sustainability of Thermal Groundwater Management. World Geothermal Congress, IGA, Melbourne.**
- **NÁDOR et al. 2013: Strategy paper on sustainable cross-border geothermal utilization – TRANSENERGY. <http://transenergy-eu.geologie.ac.at/>, Results, WP6**
- **RMAN et al. 2011: Water concession principles for geothermal aquifers in the Mura-Zala Basin, NE Slovenia. Water Resources Management, 25, 3277–3299, doi: [10.1007/s11269-011-9855-5](https://doi.org/10.1007/s11269-011-9855-5)**



## 1. Monitoring status

- Requirements are interdependent
- If active monitoring exists (5 points), additional points (1 to 3) can be added

| Monitoring status  | Points |
|--|--------|
| Sporadic observations  | 0      |
| Active monitoring carried out by water producers: Continuous measurements of discharge (produced water), piezometric level, temperature and regular chemical water analysis of production/operational well | 5      |
| Yearly report of active monitoring results submitted by concessionaire/licenser and approved by granting authority   | 3      |
| Passive monitoring in non-exploited observation well: Regular measurements of piezometric level  | 1      |
| Passive monitoring in non-exploited observation wells: Temporarily sampling of groundwater for chemical / isotopic analysis to identify global changes   | 1      |

$$I_{MON} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n P_i}{N_{tot}}$$

$P_i$  = number of assigned points to a geothermal object  $i$

$N_{tot}$  = total number of geothermal objects on the basin level in the investigated country

## 2. Best available technology

- Requirements are independent
- Reinjection wells not evaluated

| BAT use  | Response | Points |
|--|----------|--------|
| Well-maintained wellheads which are isolated and protected from unfavorable weather conditions and unauthorized persons.   | Yes      | 0      |
|  | No       | 1      |
| Materials installed in and above the well are inert for aggressive water/gas mixtures and higher temperatures. Calcite scaling problems are mitigated by injecting inhibitors. | Yes      | 0      |
|  | No       | 1      |
| Installations avoid areas of gas or water leaks and include the placement of a water release valve before the degassing unit at the wellhead.                                  | Yes      | 0      |
|  | No       | 1      |
| Produced water is precisely and continuously following the water demand. If pumping is required computer-managed frequency pumps are used.                                     | Yes      | 0      |
|  | No       | 1      |
| The thermal water is used based on the principles of a cascade system, with both computerised and individual phases controlled as much as possible.                            | Yes      | 0      |
|  | No       | 1      |
| Supporting technical, lithological, hydrogeological and chemical documentation is well-kept and regularly updated.   | Yes      | 0      |
|  | No       | 1      |

$$\bar{I}_{BAT} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n I_i \cdot Q_i}{\sum_{i=1}^n Q_i}$$

$I_i$  = number of assigned points to a geothermal object  $i$

$Q_i$  = annual production rate of a geothermal object  $i$  ( $m^3/y$ )

| $\bar{I}_{BAT}$<br>[points] | Result      |            |
|-----------------------------|-------------|------------|
|                             | Descriptive | Points [%] |
| 0                           | Very good   | 100        |
| 0-1                         | Good        | 75         |
| 1-2                         | Medium      | 50         |
| 2-3                         | Weak        | 25         |
| > 3                         | Bad         | 0          |

### 3. Energy (thermal) efficiency

- Ratio between used and available annual heat energy
- No re-injection applied

$$\eta_i = \frac{T_{whd} - T_{out}}{T_{whd} - T_o}$$

$$TE = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \eta_i \cdot Q_i}{\sum_{i=1}^n Q_i} [\%]$$

- Partial re-injection of thermal water

$$\eta_{ri} = \frac{Q_i(T_{whd} - T_{out})}{Q_i(T_{whd} - T_{out}) + Q_{wwi}(T_{out} - T_o)}$$

- Total reinjection

$$\eta = 100 \%$$

| TE [%]  | Result      |            |
|---------|-------------|------------|
|         | Descriptive | Points [%] |
| > 70    | Very good   | 100        |
| 60 - 70 | Good        | 75         |
| 40 - 60 | Medium      | 50         |
| 30 - 40 | Weak        | 25         |
| < 30    | Bad         | 0          |

$Q_{wwi}$  = annual discharge rate of waste thermal water of a geothermal object i (m<sup>3</sup>/y)

## 4.Utilization efficiency

- **Ratio between average annual water production and maximum possible production (as in water permits)**
- **Naturally discharged thermal waters (from springs) are not accounted for**

$$F_u = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n Q_i}{\sum_{i=1}^n Q_{cap i}} \cdot 100 [\%]$$

| F <sub>u</sub> [%] | Results     |            |
|--------------------|-------------|------------|
|                    | Descriptive | Points [%] |
| > 30               | Very good   | 100        |
| 25 - 30            | Good        | 75         |
| 20 - 25            | Medium      | 50         |
| 15 - 20            | Weak        | 25         |
| < 15               | Bad         | 0          |

**Q<sub>cap i</sub>** = installed capacity of a geothermal site i (≈ maximum allowed annual production as defined in water permit) (m<sup>3</sup>/y)

## 5. Bathing efficiency

- Not totally developed yet (lack of data); should account for medical effects.
- Production rate for filling pools should not exceed 10 m<sup>3</sup> per bather per day

## 6. Re-injection rate

- Ratio between annually produced and reinjected volumes of thermal water used for geothermal energy production

$$\overline{RI}_Q = \sum_1^n \frac{Q_{reinj\ i}}{Q_{abs\ i}} [\%]$$

| $\overline{RI}_Q$ [%] | Result      |            |
|-----------------------|-------------|------------|
|                       | Descriptive | Points [%] |
| > 60                  | Very good   | 100        |
| 40 - 60               | Good        | 75         |
| 20 - 40               | Medium      | 50         |
| 0 - 20                | Weak        | 25         |
| 0                     | Bad         | 0          |

$Q_{abs\ i}$  = annual production rate of thermal water of a geothermal object  $i$  used solely for geothermal heat production (m<sup>3</sup>/y)

$Q_{reinj\ i}$  = annual reinjection rate of thermal water of a geothermal object  $i$  used for geothermal heat production (m<sup>3</sup>/y)

## 7. Status of water balance assessment

- Knowledge on the quantity status and reliability of data
- One well can have maximum one point
- Only one statement can be selected

$$I_{wba} = \frac{P_i}{N_{tot}} \cdot 100 \text{ [%]}$$

| Status of water balance assessment   | Points |
|--|--------|
| Not assessed   | 0      |
| Critical level point is defined (not based upon measurements on the location but from other available data / locations).   | 0.25   |
| Critical level point is defined (based upon average yearly minimum level value from previous years on the location).   | 0.5    |
| Critical level point is defined. Renewable and available volume of water is assessed. Critical point of abstraction is defined. Study is made on the base of old / regional data and knowledge . | 0.75   |
| Renewable and available volume of water is assessed. Critical point of abstraction and critical level point are both defined. Study is made and updated on the basis of actual measurements.     | 1      |

| I <sub>wba</sub><br>[%] | Results     |               |
|-------------------------|-------------|---------------|
|                         | Descriptive | Points<br>[%] |
| > 95                    | Very good   | 100           |
| 75 - 95                 | Good        | 75            |
| 50 - 75                 | Medium      | 50            |
| 25 - 50                 | Weak        | 25            |
| < 25                    | Bad         | 0             |

**P<sub>i</sub>** = number of assigned points to a geothermal object i

**N<sub>tot</sub>** = total number of geothermal objects on the basin level in the investigated country

## 8. Over-abstraction

- Quantity status in strong connection with reinjection rate and water balance assessment indicators

$$\bar{I}_{OE} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n I_i \cdot Q_i}{\sum_{i=1}^n Q_i}$$

| Status of the aquifer based on the impact of production   | Response | Points |
|---|----------|--------|
| Significant decreasing of piezometric level is showing that new equilibrium could not be reached. | Yes      | 1      |
|   | No       | 0      |
| Decreasing water quality or temperature are caused by thermal water production.                   | Yes      | 1      |
|   | No       | 0      |
| Decreasing of groundwater availability (lower yield, pump lowering).                              | Yes      | 1      |
|   | No       | 0      |
| Impact on dependent ecosystems is significant.  | Yes      | 1      |
|   | No       | 0      |
| Strata subsidence caused by groundwater production.   | Yes      | 1      |
|   | No       | 0      |

| $\bar{I}_{OE}$<br>[points] | Result      |            |
|----------------------------|-------------|------------|
|                            | Descriptive | Points [%] |
| 0                          | Very good   | 100        |
| 0-1                        | Good        | 75         |
| 1-2                        | Medium      | 50         |
| 2-3                        | Weak        | 25         |
| > 3                        | Bad         | 0          |

$I_i$  = number of assigned points to a geothermal object  $i$   
 $Q_i$  = annual production rate of a geothermal object  $i$  (m<sup>3</sup>/y)

## 9. Quality of discharged waste thermal water

- Not totally developed yet (needed data was not collected)
- Not tested properly

$$I_{Qual\ ww\ i} = \frac{N_{positive\ i}}{N_{tot\ i}} \cdot 100 [\%]$$

$$\bar{I}_{Qual\ ww} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n I_{Qual\ ww\ i} \cdot Q_i}{\sum_{i=1}^n Q_i} [\%]$$

| I <sub>Qual_disc</sub> [%] | Result      |            |
|----------------------------|-------------|------------|
|                            | Descriptive | Points [%] |
| > 95                       | Very good   | 100        |
| 90 - 95                    | Good        | 75         |
| 80 - 90                    | Medium      | 50         |
| 70 - 80                    | Weak        | 25         |
| < 70                       | Bad         | 0          |

**N<sub>positive i</sub>** = total number of positive samples (which meet the waste water emission requirements) per year of a geothermal object i

**N<sub>tot i</sub>** = total number of taken chemical samples per year of a geothermal object i

**Q<sub>i</sub>** = annual production rate of a geothermal object i (m<sup>3</sup>/y)



## 10. Public awareness

- Overview of users' websites, media and promotion materials
- If available, often only in national languages

$$I_{inf} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n P_i}{N_{tot}}$$

| Information about                      | Points |
|--|--------|
| Monitoring                             | 1      |
| BAT use                                | 1      |
| Quantitative status (overexploitation) | 3      |
| Qualitative status of waste water      | 3      |
| Energy efficiency                      | 2      |

| $I_{inf}$ | Results     |            |
|-----------|-------------|------------|
|           | Descriptive | Points [%] |
| > 8       | Very good   | 100        |
| 6 - 8     | Good        | 75         |
| 4 - 6     | Medium      | 50         |
| 2 - 4     | Weak        | 25         |
| < 2       | Bad         | 0          |

$P_i$  = number of assigned points to a geothermal object  $i$

$N_{tot}$  = total number of geothermal objects on the basin level in the investigated country

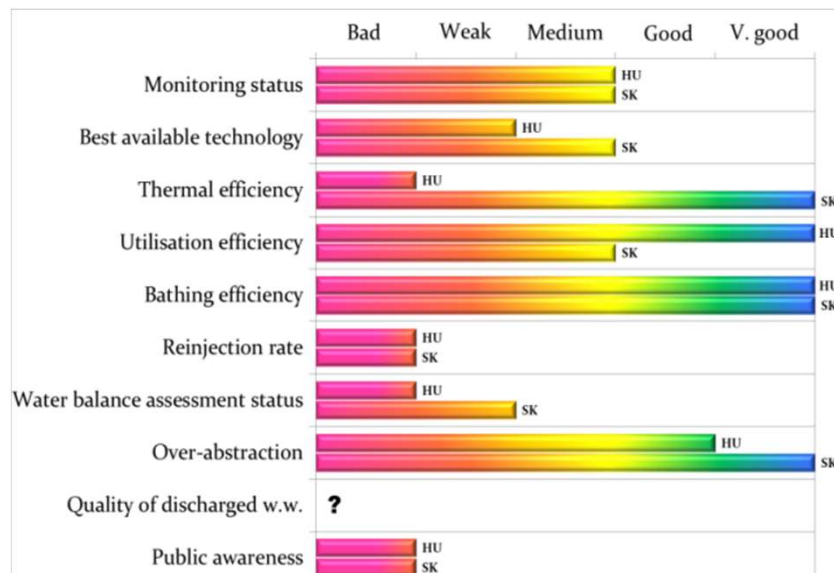
## Komárno-Štúrovo Pilot Area

### Aquifer:

- Upper Triassic limestones and dolomites
- ### Water use
- 23-39 °C water for bathing
  - 40-60 °C water for greenhouses heating

### Assessment of

- 8 active Slovakian wells (2009)
- 26 active Hungarian wells (2011)



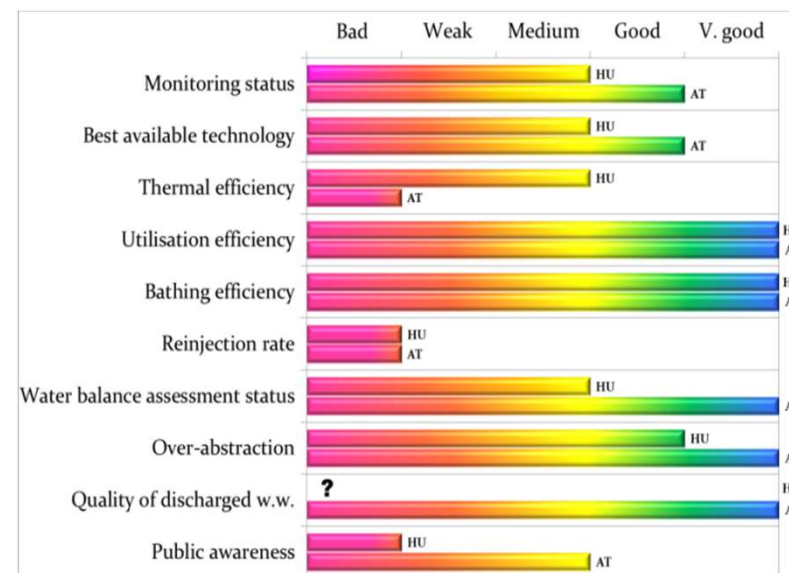
## Lutzmannsburg-Zsira Pilot Area

### Aquifer:

- Upper Pannonian sand, D dolomite
- ### Water use
- for balneology

### Assessment of

- 12 active and 3 inactive Hungarian wells
- 2 active Austrian wells

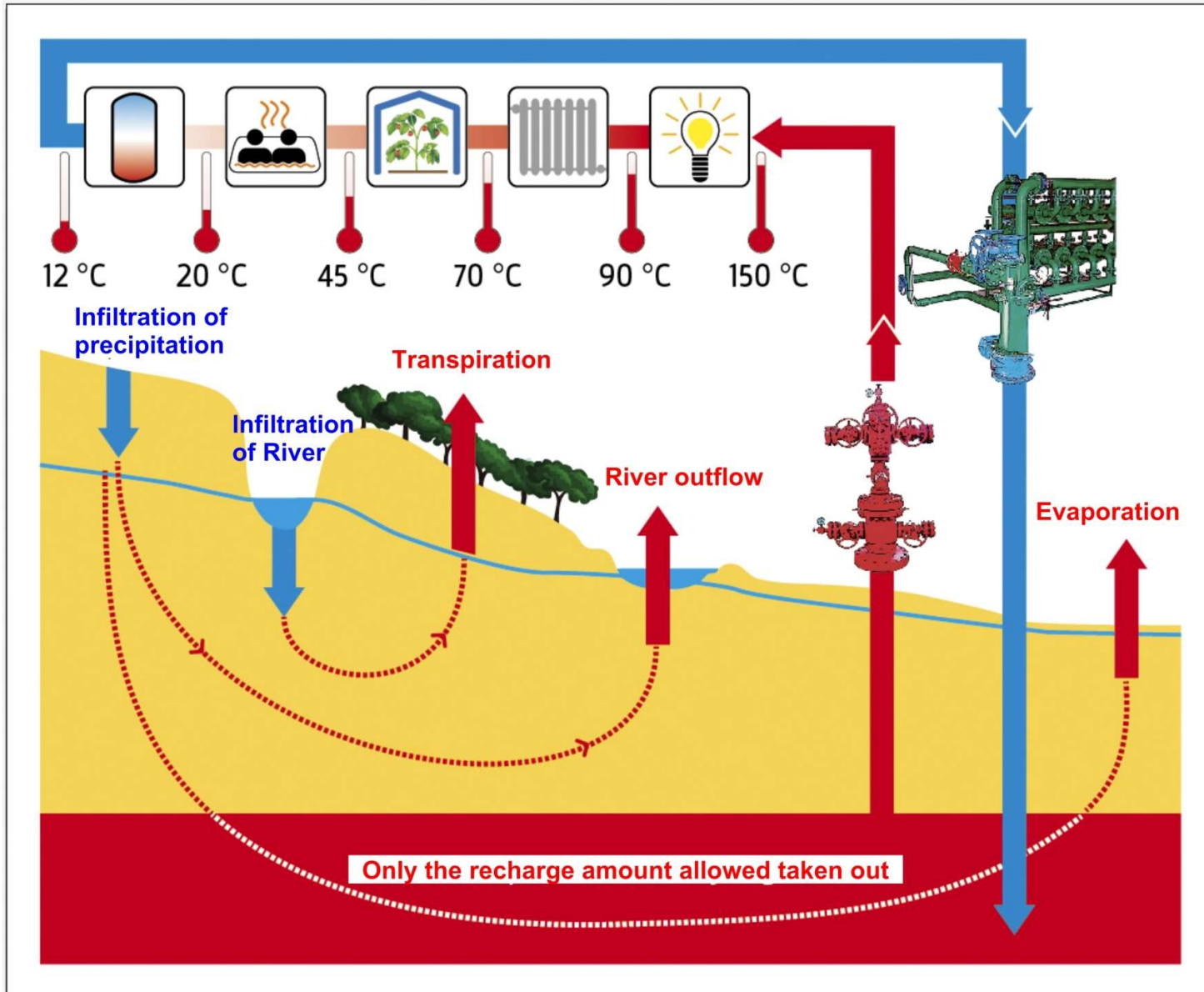


## Part III – Utilization and management of hydrothermal resources

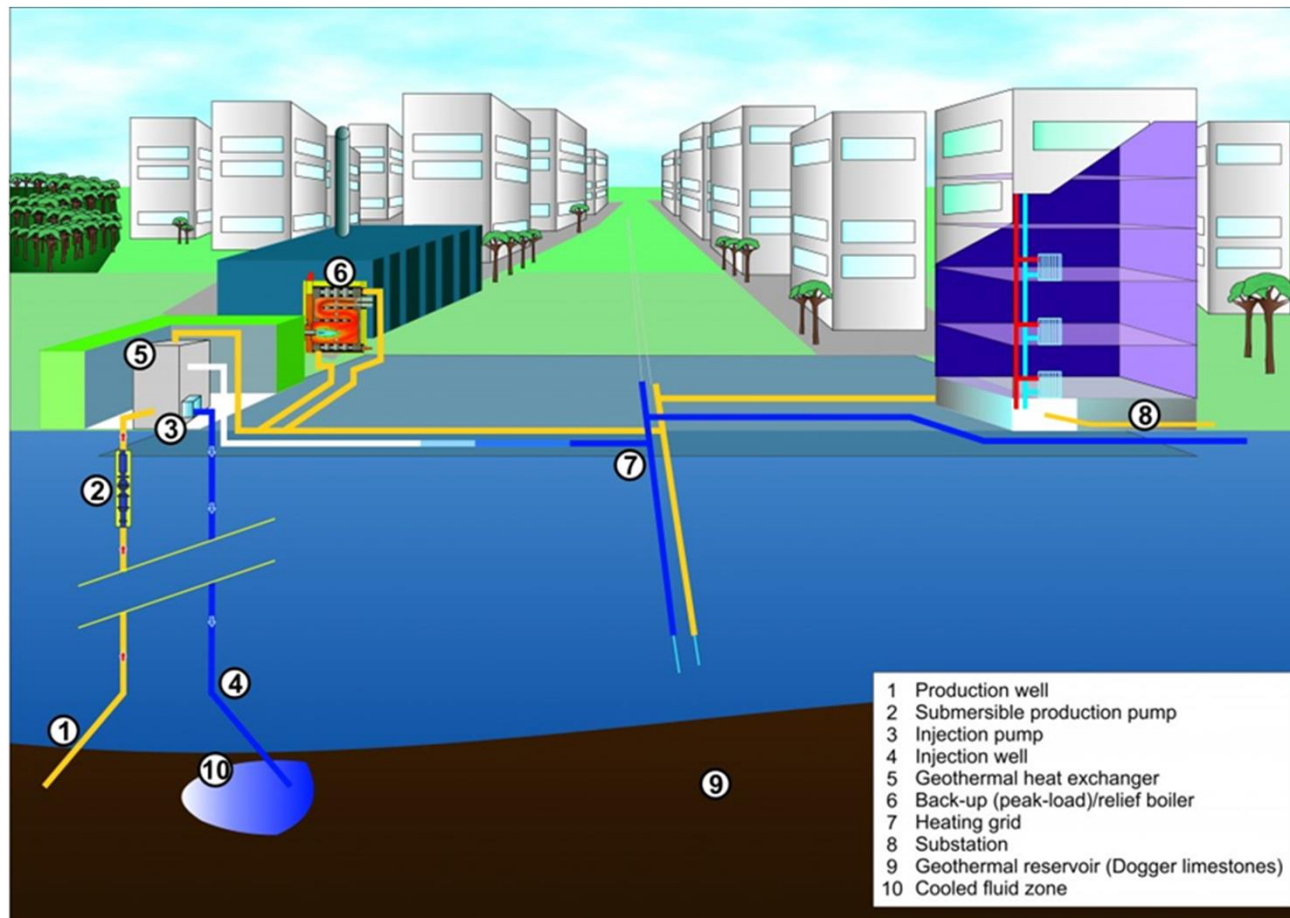


# Some practical aspects and good practices of thermal water direct uses

# Optimal use of thermal water



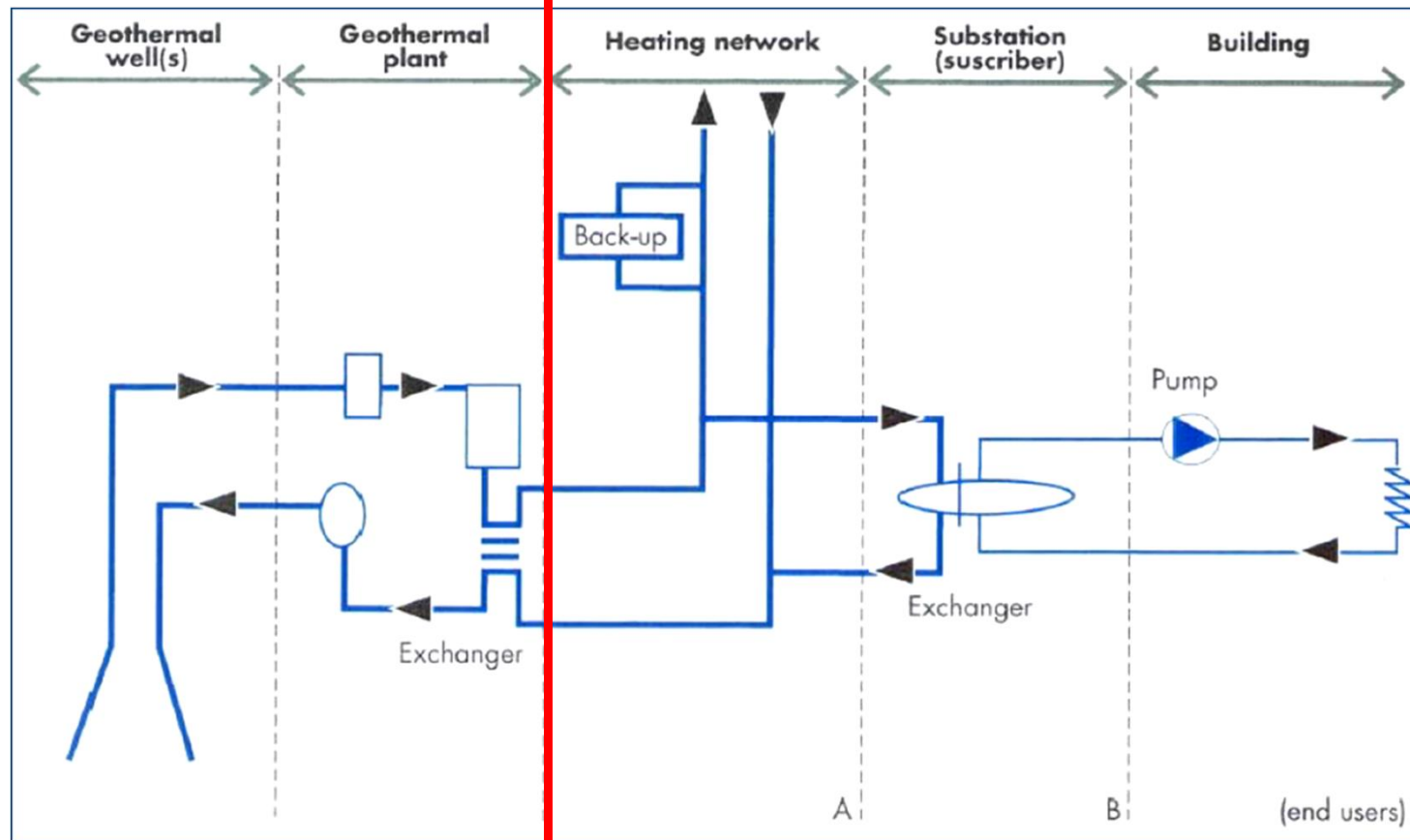
## Main components of a geothermal district heating



Source: GeoDH project

## Geothermal part of the DH Geothermal loop

## Conventional part of the DH Heating loop



Source: GeoDH project

# **A five step analysis is needed to assist an initial evaluation before launching the construction of a geothermal district heating**



## **1. Analyse Geothermal Heat Production**

Information on the characteristics of an identified resource to estimate the heat production from deep geothermal resources.

## **2. Identify District heating Market Areas**

Heating demands in the service area are estimated such as the density of thermal loads and distance from production fields. If the DH already exists, this step will be limited to evaluate the adaptation of the heating loop.

## **3. Preliminary design of the district network for selected zones inside the town**

To consider engineering design options available for the geothermal district heating system, which is dependent on resource temperature, flow rate, geothermal water quality and depth.

## **4. Analyse the economic aspects**

To provide a procedure to estimate capital expenditures, and annual operation and maintenance costs which could be translated into costs per unit of energy for both district heating and conventional systems.

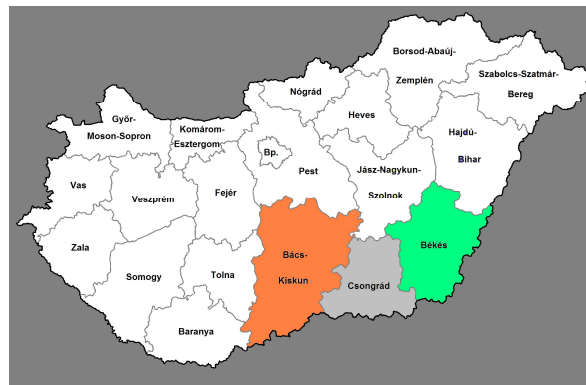
## **5. Evaluate district heating feasibility**

To explain how district heating and conventional costs are compared. Evaluation criteria are suggested to determine whether district heating is appropriate.

## The early 2000's - The South Great Plain region is catching up with geothermal

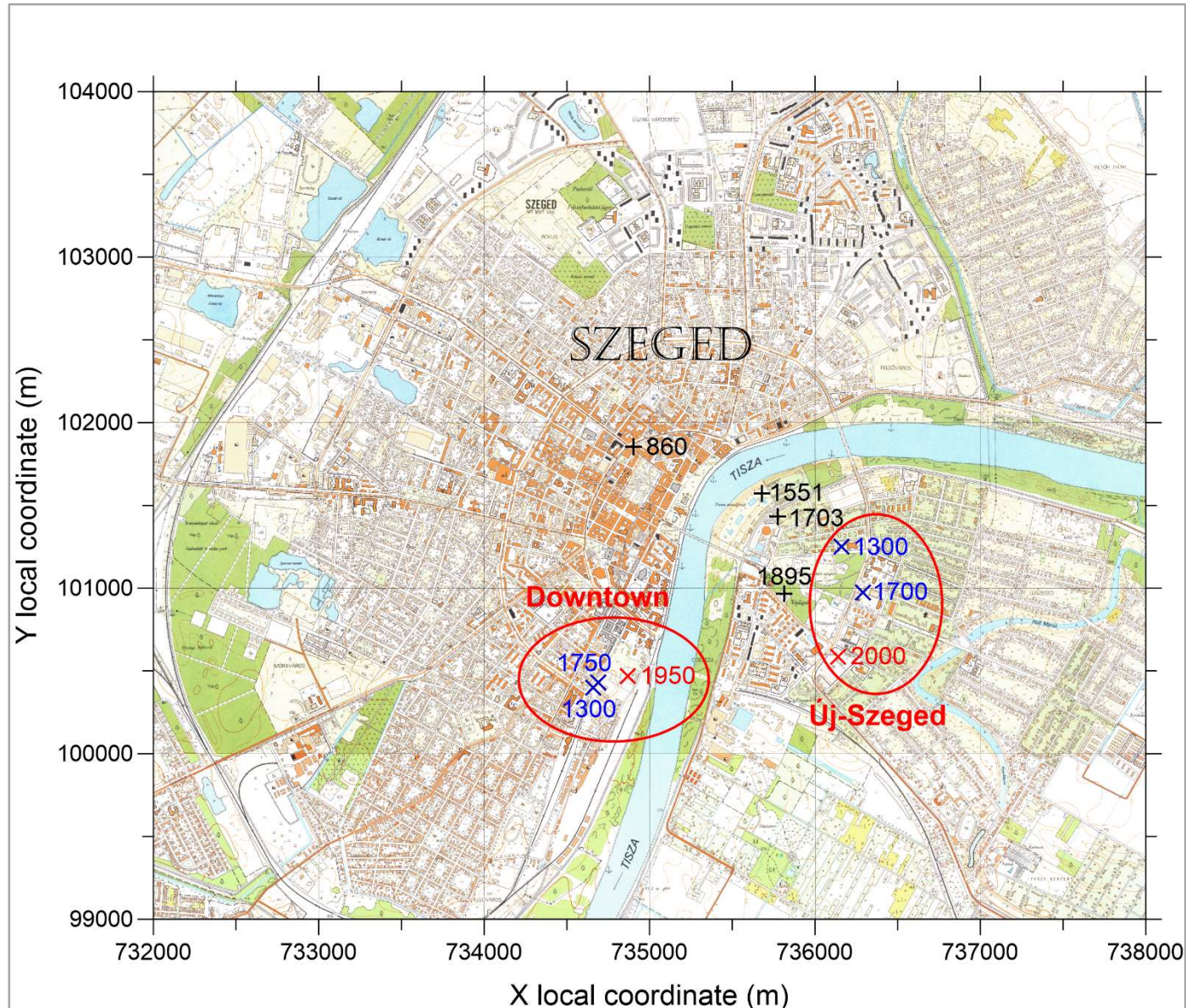


- 2008-2010: A brand new geothermal district heating system complete with waste gas utilization is built and starts to operate in Mórahalom**
- 2010: Geothermal heating is introduced to a TESCO store in Hódmezővásárhely, and to the building of the Faculty of Engineering at the University of Szeged**
- 2012-2013 A non-functioning geothermal district heating system is completely overhauled, expanded and starts to operate in Csongrád**
- 2012-2014: Two new geothermal district heating systems are built and start to operate in Szeged**
- 2013-2015: A defunct production well is reopened, and a new geothermal district heating system is built in Makó**
- 2017- : Integration of geothermal energy is planned in 4 heating circuits of the DH in Szeged**





# Case study 1: The geothermal projects of the city of Szeged



# Case study 1a: Geothermal cascade system in the city centre



# Case study 1a: Heat market of Szeged-downtown



## Case study 1a: Parameters of the Szeged downtown geothermal circle

### Construction of the 4.4 MW<sub>th</sub> project

- 1 production well (1,995 m)
- 2 injection wells (1,350 m; 1,750 m)
- pipe line ~ 3,300 m
- 25 new heating centres
- Online PLC control system

### Outcomes of the project

- Produced geothermal energy: 55,239 GJ/y
- Natural gas reduction: 1.8 million m<sup>3</sup>/y
- CO<sub>2</sub> reduction: 3,633 t/y
- Spending on investment: 6.6 million €
- Investment/produced energy: 1,410 €/kW)
- Specific investment of CO<sub>2</sub> reduction: 1,830
- Maintenance cost: 280,000 €/y
- Profit: 0.45 million €/year



# Case study 1b: Geothermal cascade system in New-Szeged



# Case study 1b: Heat market of New-Szeged



## Case study 1b: Parameters of the New-Szeged geothermal system

### Construction of the 4.5 MW<sub>th</sub> project

- 1 production well (2,000 m)
- 2 injection wells (1,250 m; 1,700 m)
- pipe line ~ 4,400 m
- 12 new heating centres
- Online PLC control system

### Outcomes of the project

- Produced geothermal energy: 37,167 GJ/y
- Natural gas reduction: 1.2 million m<sup>3</sup>/y
- CO<sub>2</sub> reduction: 2,343 t/y
- Spending on investment: 4.2 million €
- Investment/produced energy: 860 €/kW)
- Specific investment of CO<sub>2</sub> reduction: 1,780 €/t
- Maintenance cost: 193,300 €/y
- Profit: 0.37 million €/y



## District Heating in Szeged

**Municipally owned DH Company**

**Heat and DHW service to 27,000 apartments (4-10 story blocks) and 500 public buildings (schools, kindergartens, hospitals etc)**

**Built between 1979 and 1989**

**23 heating centres as hubs of the service and 99 1-5mW boilers**

**215 km pipeline system**

**Total yearly gas consumption 28 million m<sup>3</sup>**

**The total capacity of the system is 224mW.**

**150 employees**





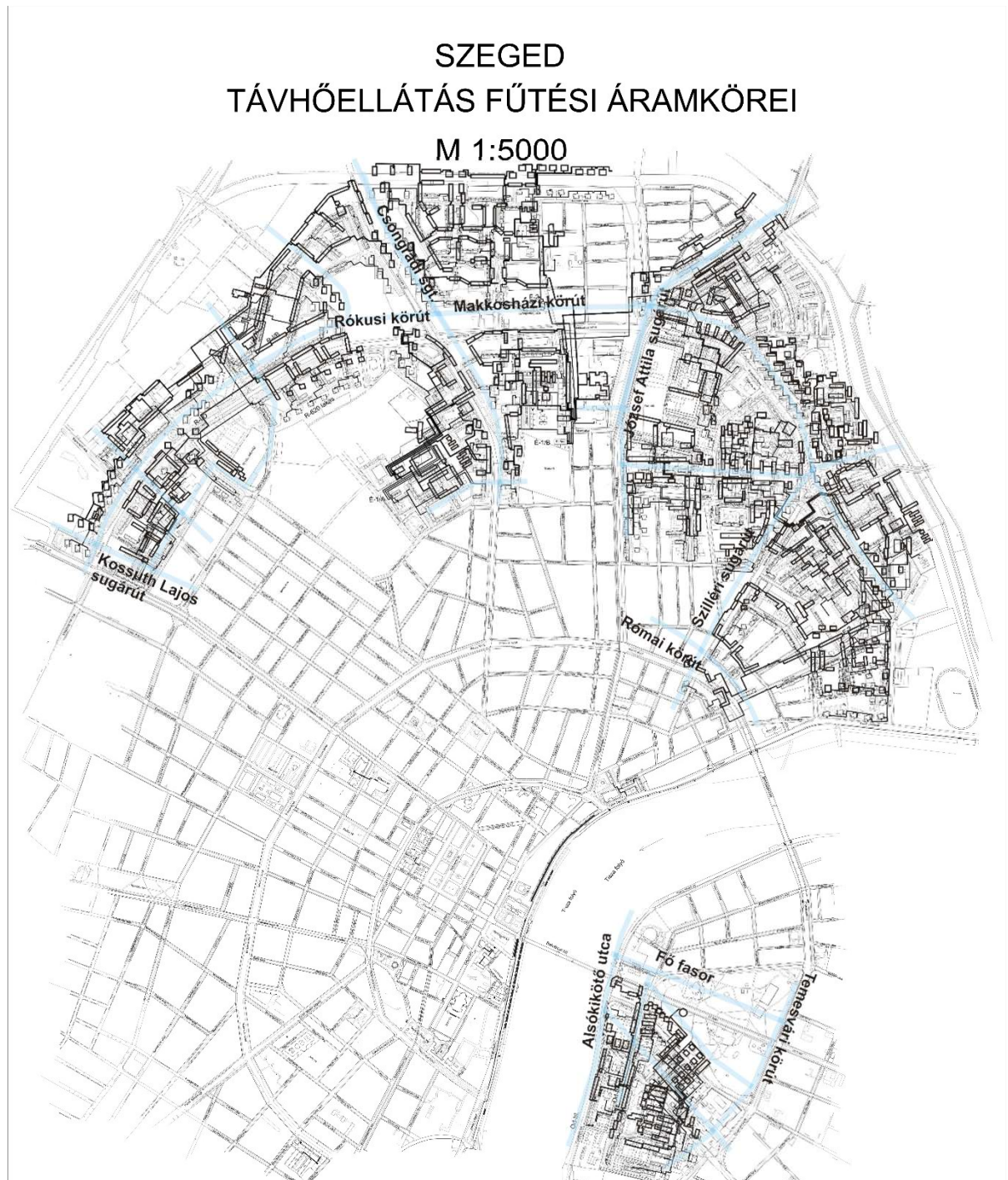
# District Heating – the ultimate heat market in Szeged

Integrating geothermal at 4 heating circuits

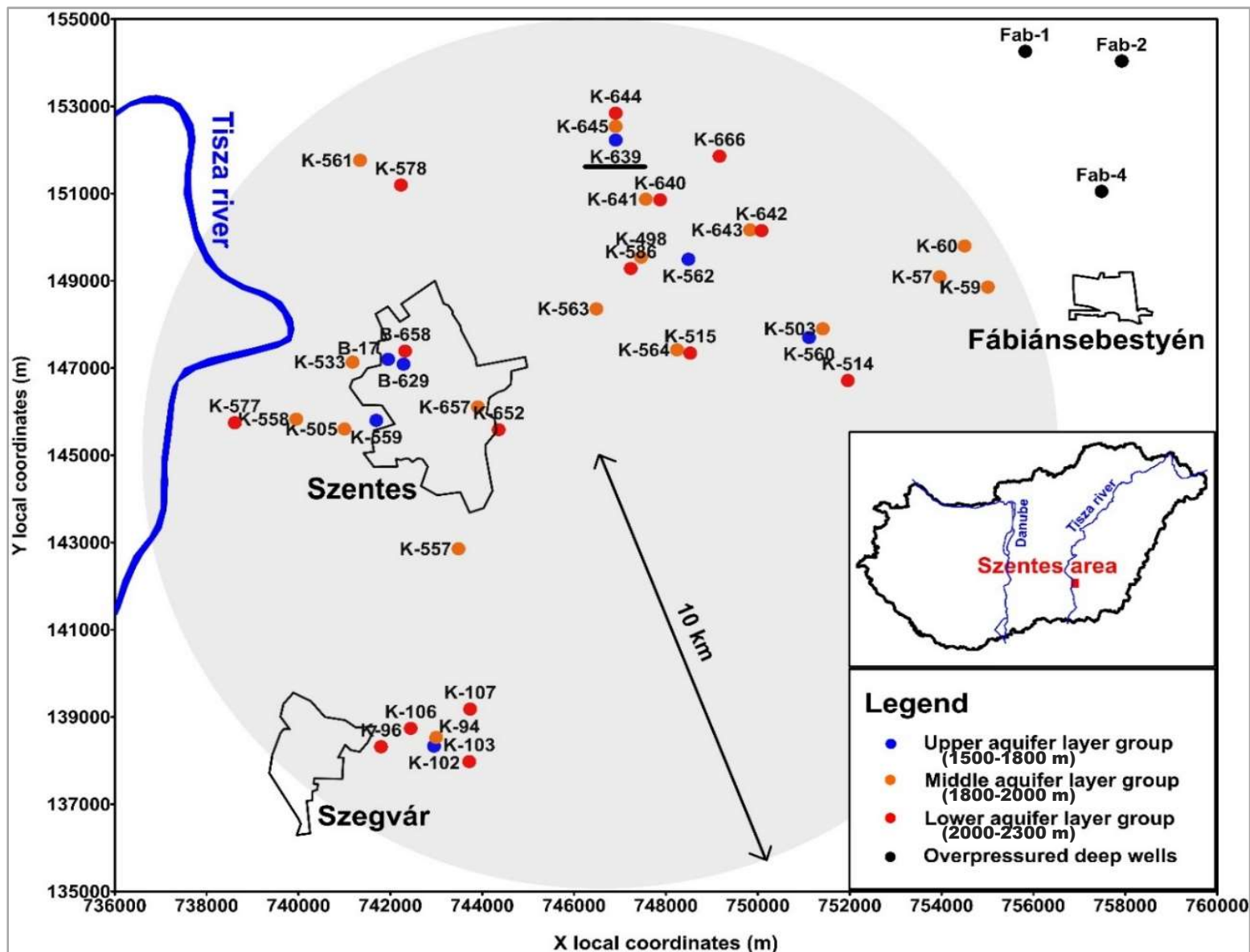
Heat market

Thermal potential

Funding



# Case study 2: the Szentes geothermal field



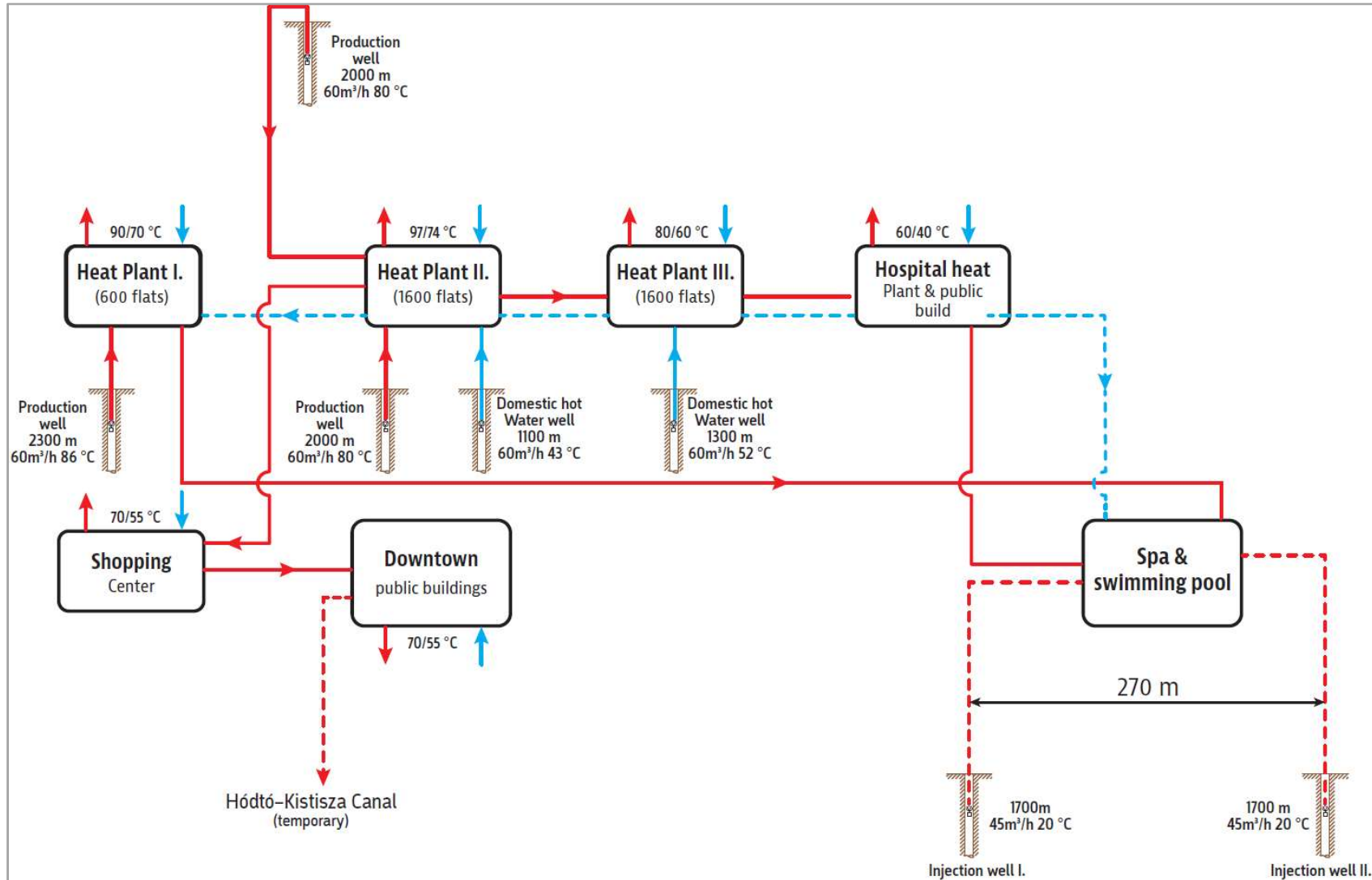
## Case study 2: Geothermal energy utilization in the Szentes area



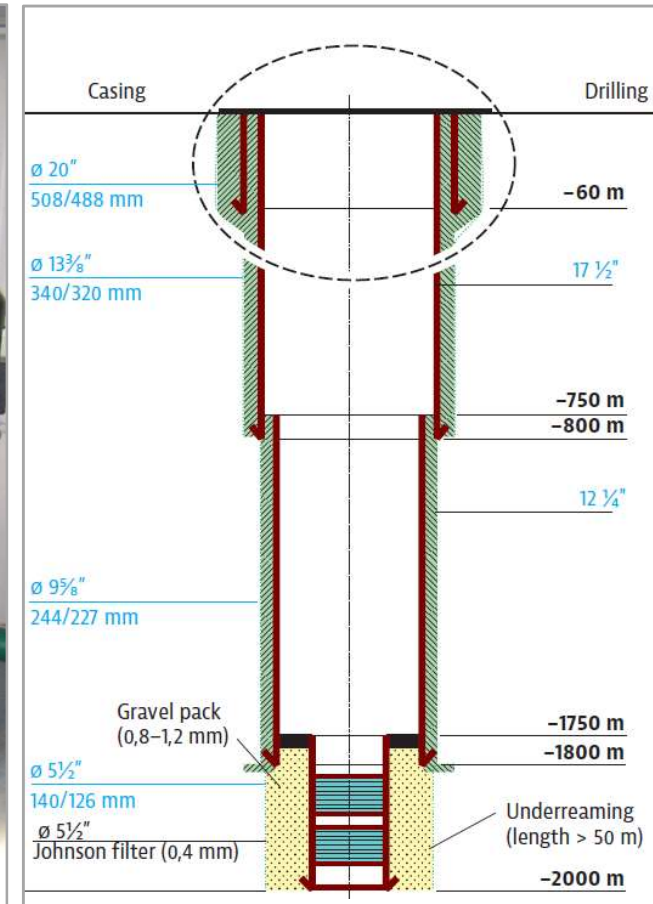
- warm water supply; hospital, balneological use
- district heating system, 1300 flats and communal buildings
- heating 60 ha of greenhouses
- 35000 m<sup>2</sup> poultry yards



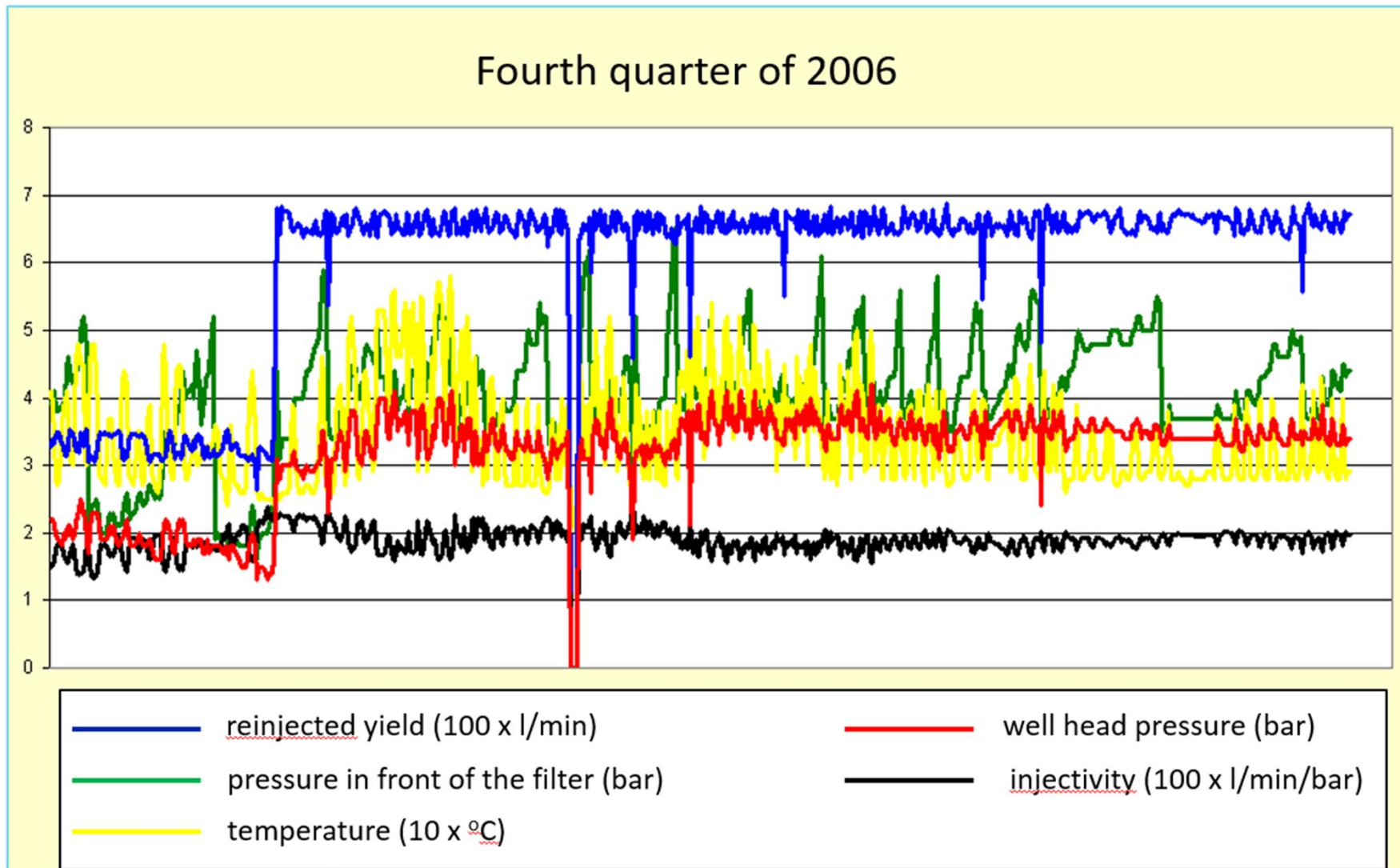
# Case study 3: Geothermal energy utilization in Hódmezővásárhely



# Case study 3: Reinjection technology in Hódmezővásárhely



## Case study 3: Reinjection data in Hódmezővásárhely



## Case study 3: Injection parameters at Hódmezővásárhely

### Aquifer parameters

According to our experience, a sandstone aquifer should provide (for the injection of 50 – 100 m<sup>3</sup>/h per well) minimum:

effective porosity > 20 %  
(13-27 l/s)

permeability > 0.5 μm<sup>2</sup>

thickness > 20 m

in order to achieve an injectivity of > 50 m<sup>3</sup>/(h\*MPa).

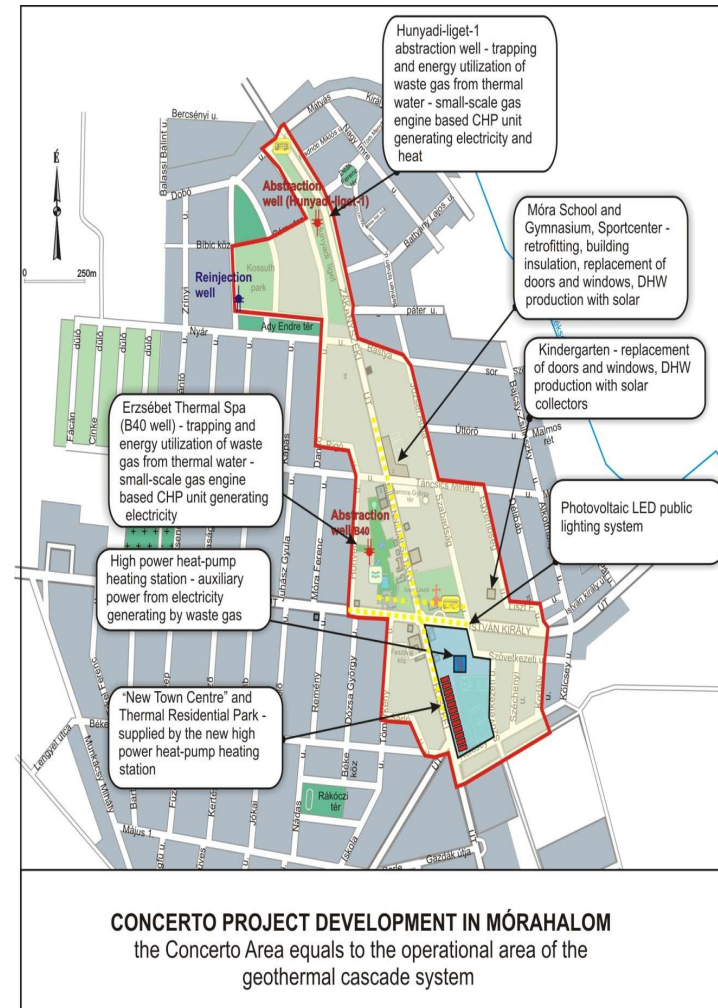
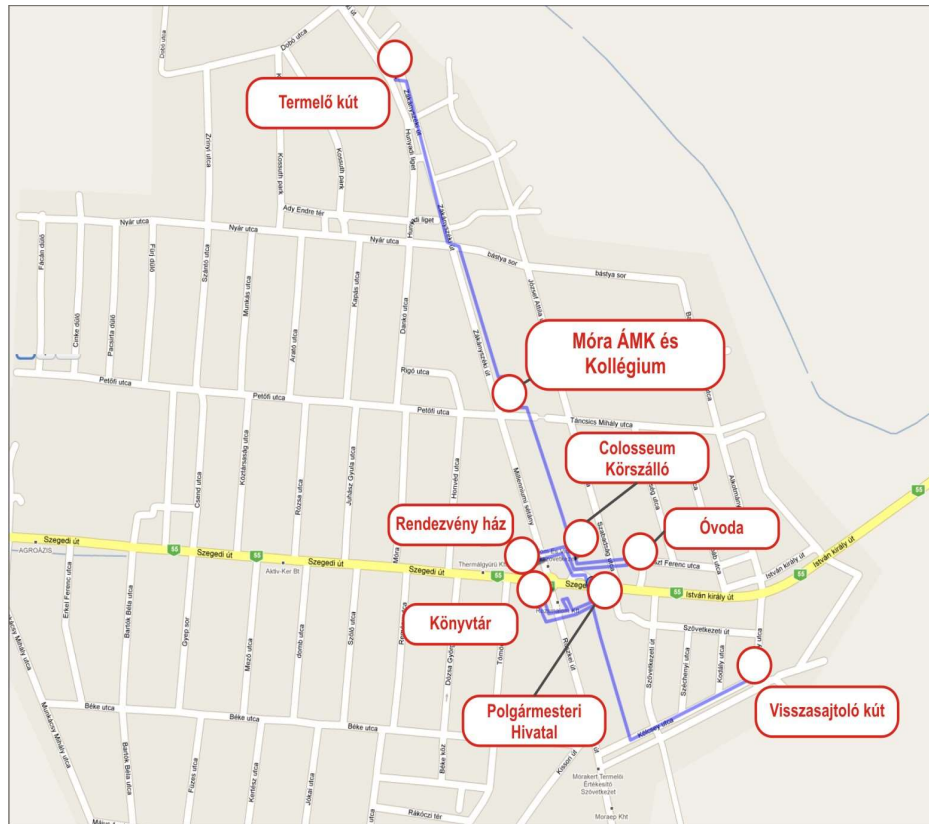
(83 l/min\*bar)

# Case study 4: Geothermal Cascade System in Mórahalom





# Case study 4: The heat-market of Mórahalom



## Case study 4: Activities of the development in Mórahalom

- The establishment of the geothermal cascade system in the public institutions of the town
- The construction of 1 ~1,400 m deep production well
- The construction of 2 ~900 m deep reinjection well
- The establishment of ~ 2,800 m new thermal conduit
- The creation of 7 new heating stations
- The establishment of an up-to-date PLC control system



## Case study 4: Indicators of the Mórahalom project

- **2,620 kW installed new geothermal heat capacity**
- **Geothermal energy usage 0% -> 80%**
- **14,441 GJ fossil energy sparing**
- **481,907 m<sup>3</sup> /year gas replacement**
- **866 t CO<sub>2</sub> emission reduction**
- **318 kg NxOx emission reduction**
- **605 kg CO emission reduction**
  
- **Investment cost: net 1.5 M Euro**
- **EU support: gross 0.75 M Euro (50%)**
- **Energy generation specific cost 600 Euro/kW**
- **CO<sub>2</sub> reduction's specific investment cost 60 Euro/t**
- **Operational cost: net 70,000 Euro/year**



# Similar heat-markets in the region

## Sándorfalva



## Csongrád



## Main parameters of some last projects

|   | Mórahalom        | Szeged University | Csongrád         | Makó             |
|---|------------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Produced geothermal energy (GJ/y)         | <b>18 000</b>    | <b>86 000</b>     | <b>55 931</b>    | <b>67 000</b>    |
| Natural gas reduction (m <sup>3</sup> /y) | <b>482 000</b>   | <b>2 900 000</b>  | <b>920 000</b>   | <b>2 192 000</b> |
| CO2 reduction (t/y)                       | <b>1 400</b>     | <b>5 900</b>      | <b>1 663</b>     | <b>3 847</b>     |
| Spending on investment (€)                | <b>1 753 000</b> | <b>10 800 000</b> | <b>1 384 000</b> | <b>3 162 000</b> |
| Investment/produced energy (€/GJ)         | <b>97.4</b>      | <b>125.6</b>      | <b>24.8</b>      | <b>47.2</b>      |
| Maintenance cost (€/y)                    | <b>138 300</b>   | <b>473 000</b>    | <b>187 000</b>   | <b>172 000</b>   |
| Pay-back (y)                              | <b>10.5</b>      | <b>13.5</b>       | <b>5.7</b>       | <b>8.1</b>       |