Karst Without Boundaries, June 2014



# The World Karst Aquifer Mapping Project – WOKAM

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# The WOKAM Project is Team Work



Members of the Scientific Advisory Board (SAB) during the 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting in Karlsruhe, April 2014

#### SAB Meeting 2014:

- Augusto Auler
- Michel Bakalowicz
- David Drew
- Guanghui Jiang
- Nils Moosdorf
- Zoran Stevanovic
- Andrea Richts
- George Veni
- Nico Goldscheider
- Franziska Griger
- Chen Zhao
- ... and others...

## Concepts, goals and fundamental project structure

- WOKAM: Global map of groundwater resources in karst aquifers.
- Potential users: Policymakers and water resources managers, interested public and hydro-geo-environmental scientists.
- Products: GIS with several layers and connected database, printed karst map(s) on paper, karst layer for WHYMAP, publications.



Source de la Loue, France.

Karst springs will also be displayed on the World Karst Aquifer Map



# Important mapping basis: WHYMAP



→ Andrea Richts & Willi Struckmeier

# Applied mapping procedure and legend

- Basis: global lithological map (GLiM) by Hartmann & Moosdorf.
- Great variety of rock types is grouped into 4 mapping units:



# 1<sup>st</sup> Draft of the "World Karst (Aquifer) Map"



## **Continuous / Discontinuous Carbonate Rock**

- Approximate differentiation at ~ 65 %.
- Cannot be done automatically, because the size, shape and distribution of carbonate rocks and their representation on maps differs strongly.
- Therefore, this work step is done manually, with geologic expertise.
- The delineation should always be done at the same working scale (1:10 Mio) and by the same person(s).
- This work step goes along with generalization.



## **Differentiation continuous / discontinuous carbonates**

Example 1: Southern France

a) Representation on GLiM



b) Generalization



## **Differentiation continuous / discontinuous carbonates**

Example 2: Eastern Europe

a) Representation on GLiM



b) Generalization



## Exposed / non-exposed carbonate rock (karst) aquifers

- Non-exposed = potential deep or confined karst water resources.
- Non-exposed karst aquifers cannot be delineated precisely without detailed 3D geological information that is usually not available.
- We show non-exposed karst using a "thrust fault symbol"; the teeth point in the dipping direction, toward the deep aquifer.





#### **Differentiation exposed / non-exposed carbonate rocks**

#### **Example 1: Paris Basin**





## **Differentiation exposed / non-exposed carbonate rocks**

#### Example 2: Molasse Basin / Northern Alpine Foreland





## **Differentiation exposed / non-exposed carbonate rocks**

#### Example 3: Eastern Europe





## GLiM is invaluable, but there are problematic zones...



SAB member George Veni helps to fix problems on the draft karst map for North America (Karlsruhe 2014)

#### Springs, wells, caves, etc.

- Compilation of a karst spring database (many colleagues are involved).
- Main criterion: Discharge during low-flow conditions, because this is important for water supply (and available for most relevant springs).
- We will show "selected karst spring" with Q(low flow) > 2000 L/s and also selected smaller karst springs.
- We also collect data on karst water wells, etc.
- The map will show a small number of selected caves. ... etc. ...
- → Work in progress: We need your contributions, organized and evaluated by the SAB members.

## Acknowledgements: all members of the SAB...

