

The Global Groundwater Information System

A Tool For Sharing Groundwater Information

Arnaud Sterckx, IGRAC



International Groundwater Resources Assessment Centre



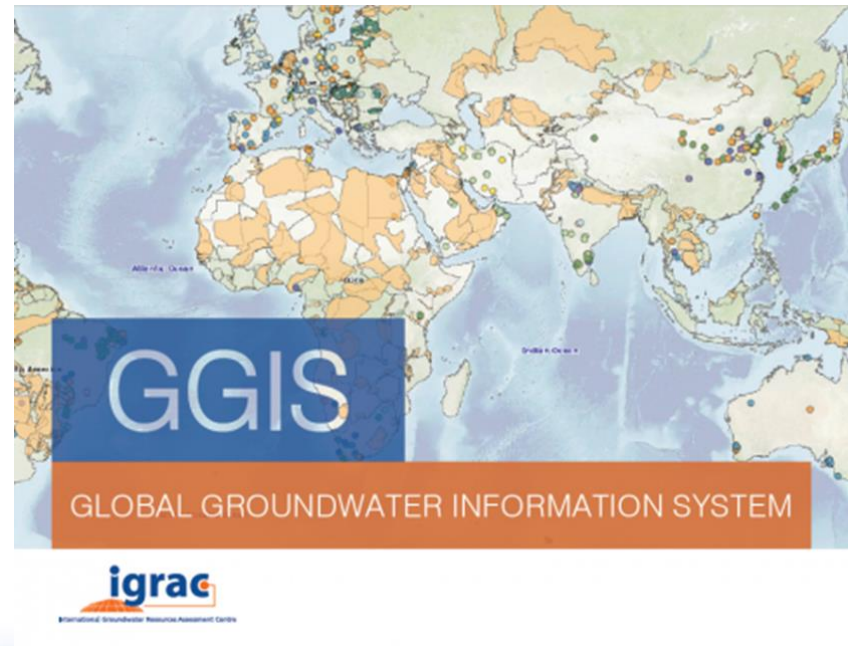
The Role of IGRAC

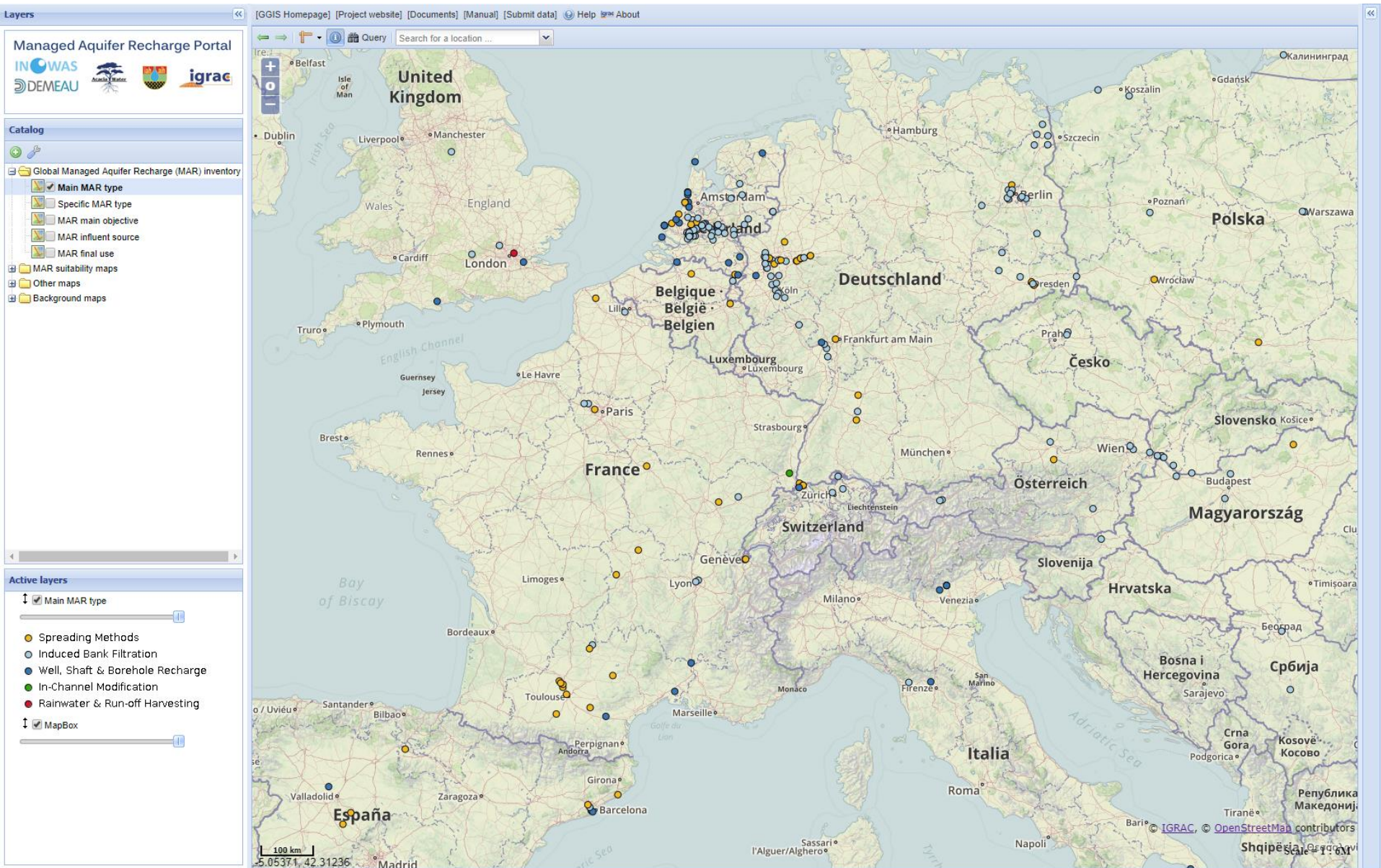
- IGRAC is the International Groundwater Resources Assessment Centre. It is a UNESCO centre working under the auspices of the WMO.
- Provide relevant information and knowledge on groundwater resources of the world, with particular emphasis on developing countries, in order to support their sustainable use
- Activities were initially axed on groundwater resources assessment and monitoring but IGRAC has developed expertise in other groundwater-related topics such as governance, training, managed aquifer recharge, transboundary aquifers and climate change adaptation.

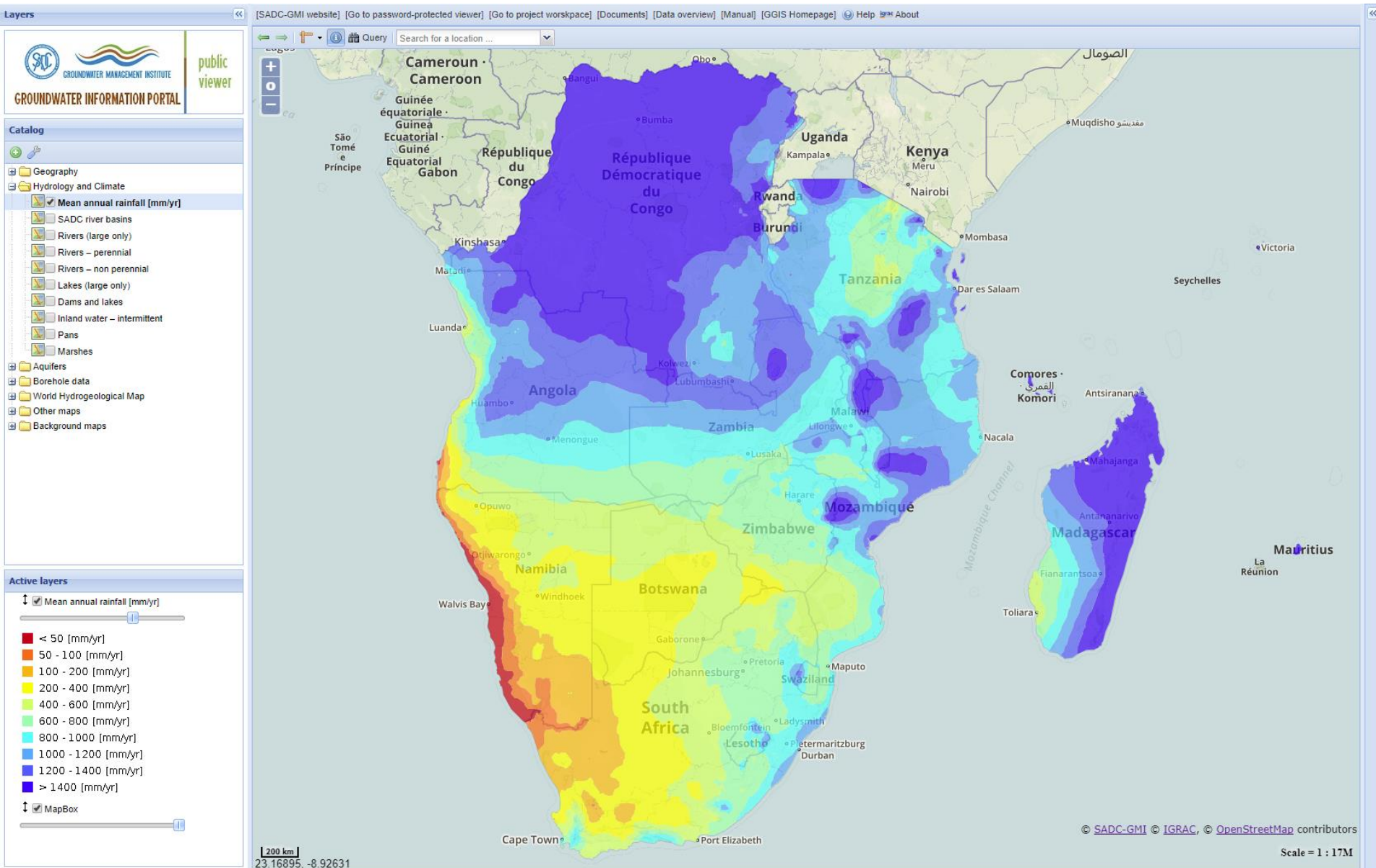
The Global Groundwater Information System (GGIS)

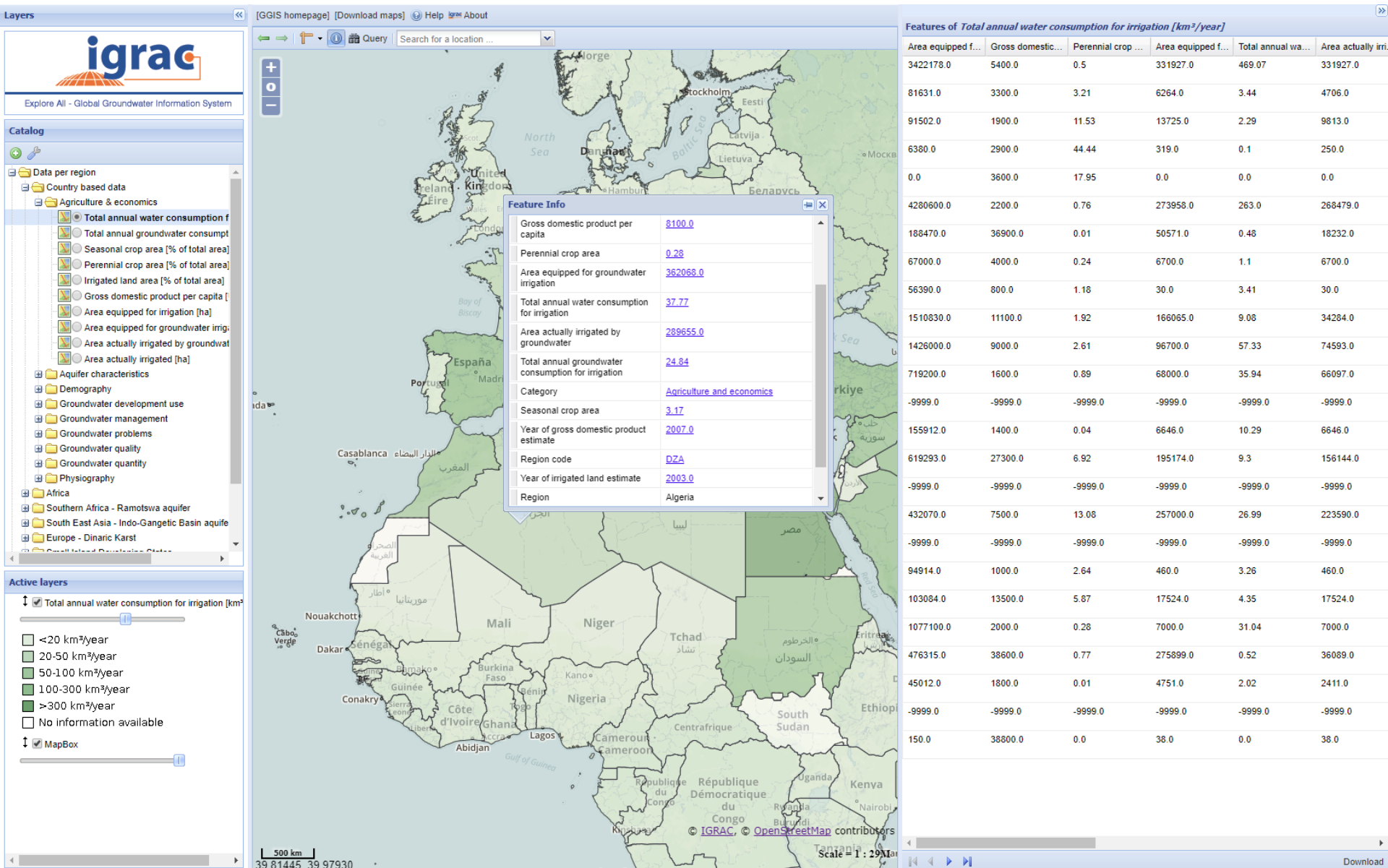
- Global, interactive and transparent online portal for groundwater-related information and knowledge
- Several viewers can be accessed via the portal, dedicated to different projects/regions/themes
- Based on international standards (Open Geospatial Consortium)
- Collect, process, store, visualise and download information

<https://www.un-igrac.org/>









The Meta-Information Module (MIM)

- Online tool for sharing groundwater-related information and knowledge in addition to maps, e.g. manuals, reports, references, images.

The screenshot shows the IGRAC website's Meta-Information Module (MIM) search page. The header includes the IGRAC logo, navigation links (Home, MIM, Help, Contact), and buttons for 'Sign in' and 'Register'. The main heading is 'Search for meta information'. Below this, a paragraph explains that the MIM is the reference core of the Global Groundwater Information System (GGIS) and contains references to documents, specialists, and organizations. It also states that users can enter a search term and use filters on the left to narrow results. The left sidebar contains three filter categories: 'Type' (People: 2471, Document: 2156, Organisation: 1298, Guidelines and Protocols: 429), 'Location of organisation/people' (Abyei: 2, Afghanistan: 3, Albania: 2, Algeria: 15, All countries Global: 67), and 'Region/country of expertise' (A-Sand/B-Sand - Guyana: 1, A-Sand/R-Sand - Suriname: 1). A 'Show the remaining 95 items' link is present under the location filter. The main search area features a text input field with the placeholder 'Enter any search term' and a 'Search' button.

igrac Home MIM Help Contact Sign in Register

Search for meta information

Meta Information Module (MIM) is the reference core of the Global Groundwater Information System (GGIS). It contains all references documents of the GGIS, other interesting groundwater related documents and meta information on groundwater specialists and water organisations.

You can enter any search term to search the information you are looking for. The filter options on the left hand side of the page can be used to narrow down the total list of results.

Type

- People (2471)
- Document (2156)
- Organisation (1298)
- Guidelines and Protocols (429)

Location of organisation/people

- Abyei (2)
- Afghanistan (3)
- Albania (2)
- Algeria (15)
- All countries Global (67)

[Show the remaining 95 items](#)

Region/country of expertise

- A-Sand/B-Sand - Guyana (1)
- A-Sand/R-Sand - Suriname (1)

Search

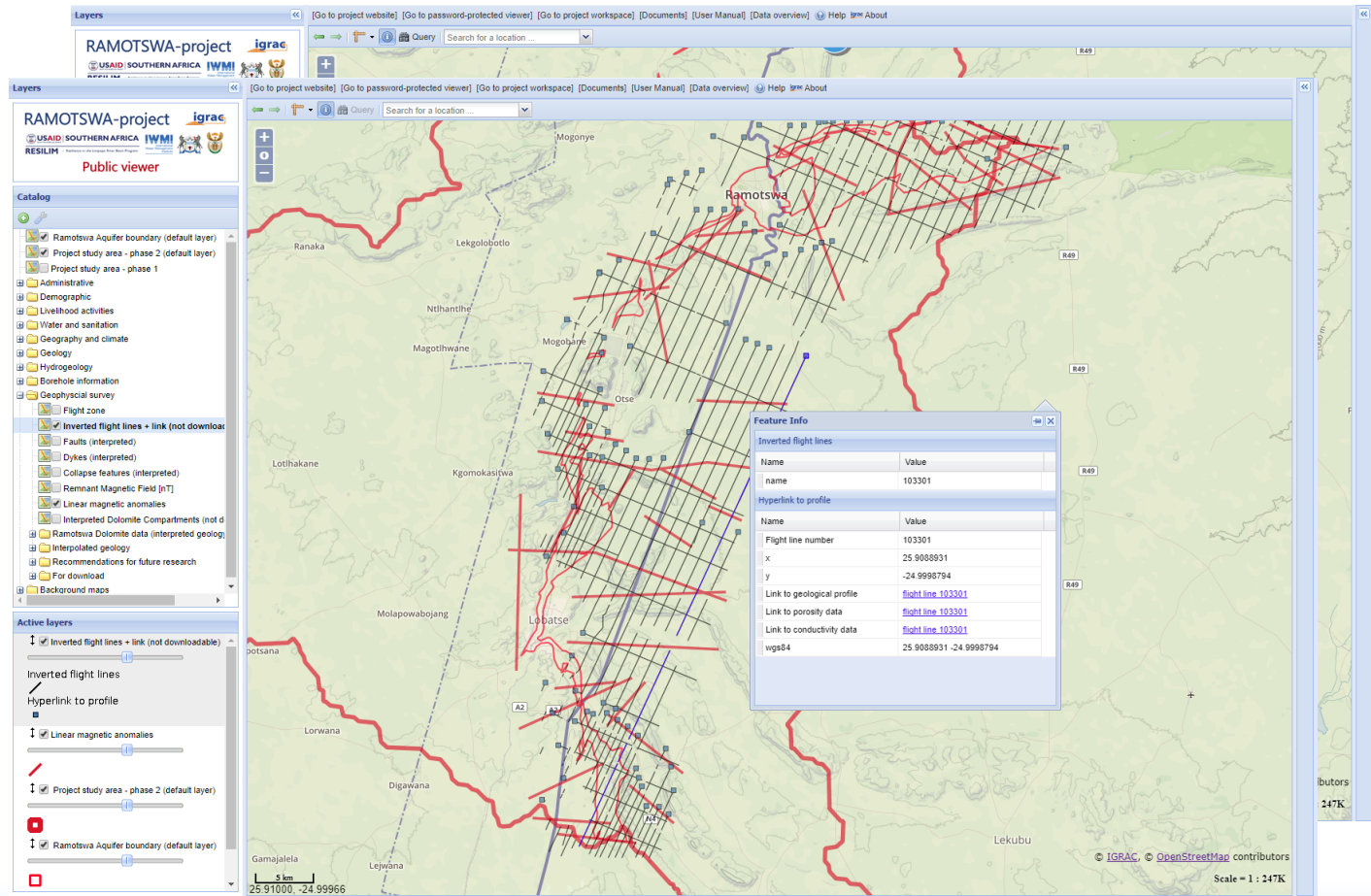
The Meta-Information Module (MIM)

Type	Theme
People (2471) Document (2156) Organisation (1298) Guidelines and Protocols (429)	Aquifer Characteristics (33) Aquifer Characteristics - Aquifer type (60) Aquifer Characteristics - Lithology (132) Climate and groundwater (21) Climate and groundwater - Climate and groundwater (38)
Region/country of expertise	Show the remaining 79 items
A-Sand/B-Sand - Guyana (1) A-Sand/B-Sand - Suriname (1) Afar Rift valley / Afar Triangle Aquifer - Djibouti (1) Afar Rift valley / Afar Triangle Aquifer - Eritrea (1) Afar Rift valley / Afar Triangle Aquifer - Ethiopia (7)	Nature
Show the remaining 95 items	Operational (8) Methodological (7) Conceptual (4) Theoretical (3)

- Meta-Information is uploaded directly by the users

Ways For Improvement

- Further develop the software for adding new options, tools, capabilities



Ways For Improvement

- New viewers add on every year, it may become difficult to find back the information.



Explore all

Contains all regional and national groundwaters data.

[ACCESS HERE](#)



Explore all -
Transboundary
Groundwaters

Contains all transboundary aquifers' data.

[ACCESS HERE](#)

Ways For Improvement

- Clean the MIM
- Control the upload of documents in the future
 - Where to find the national experts?

Conclusion

- The GGIS is an interactive, user-friendly and versatile platform supporting data acquisition and sharing.
- It connects a very large audience: researchers, water managers, decision-makers.
- KINDRA has shown very interesting ways of improvement.
→ Synergy?

Thank you for your attention



International Groundwater Resources Assessment Centre

info@un-igrac.org

www.un-igrac.org

Delft, The Netherlands



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



International
Hydrological
Programme



World Meteorological
Organization



Government of
The Netherlands