The Global Water System Project — information needs & tools —

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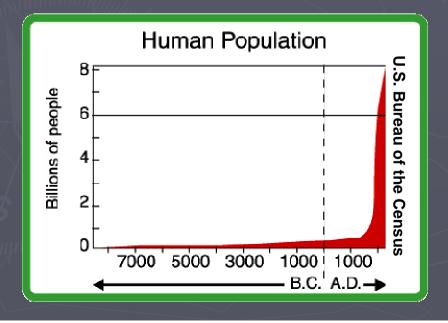
Overview

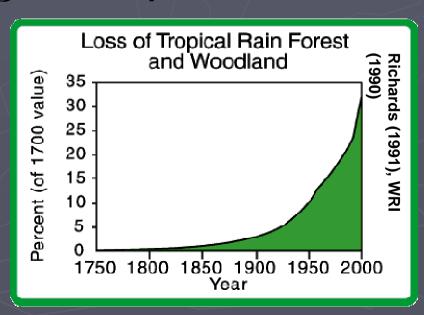
- **►** Introduction
- ► The Global Water System Project (GWSP)
- ► Information Needs & Tools
 - § GWSP Lexicon
 - § GWSP Digital Water Atlas
- **Conclusion**



Global Change

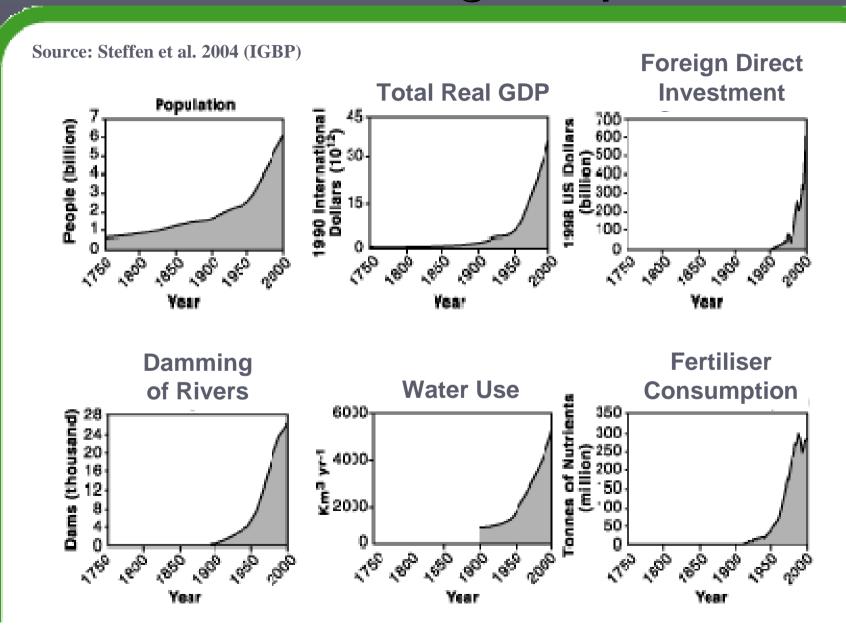
- Changes in nature and society that concern the entire mankind in the long run. (Krück et al., 2001)
- ... more than climate change
- ▶ ... far-reaching changes, often on a global scale
- ... natural and anthropogenic aspects



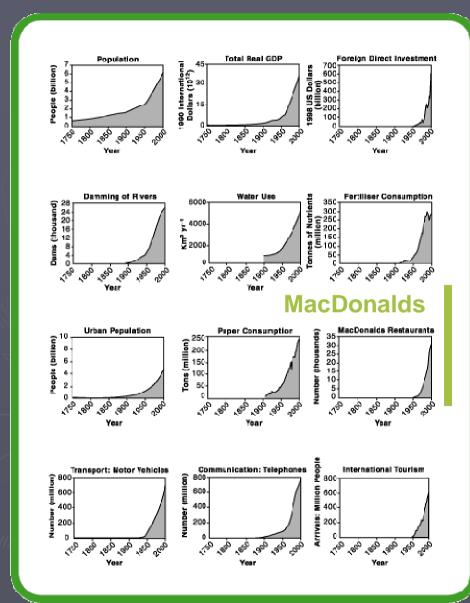


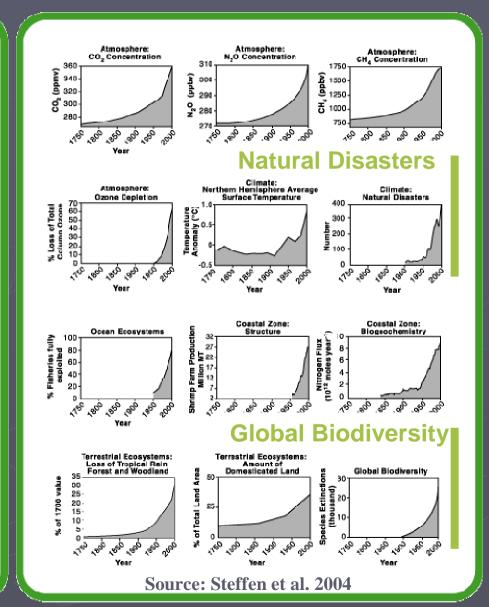


Global Change Aspects



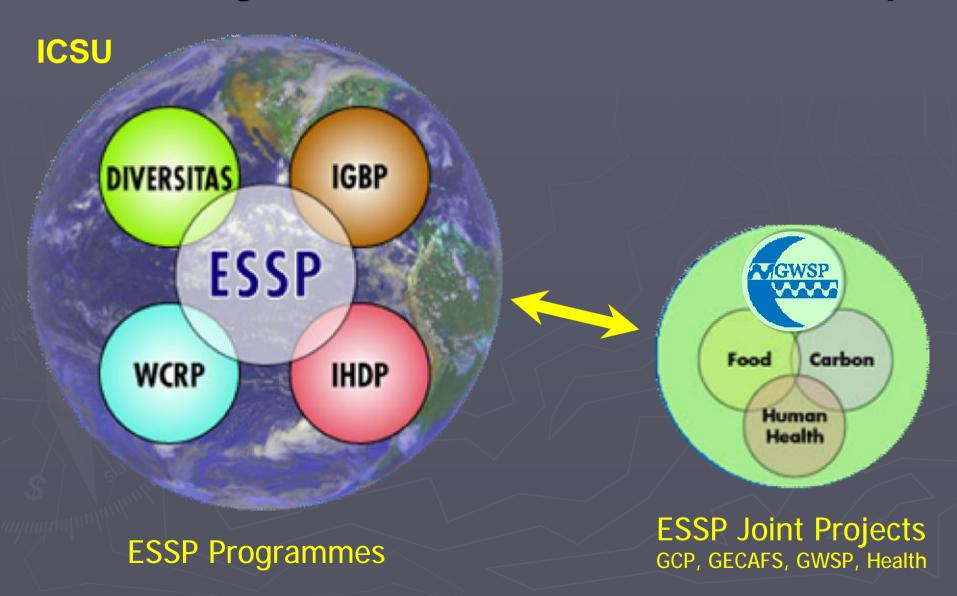






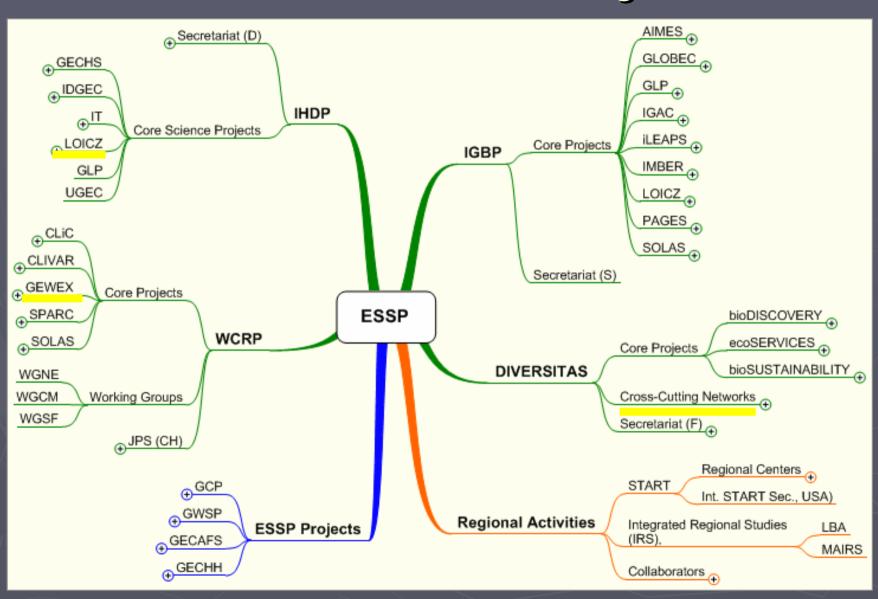


Earth System Science Partnership





The ESSP Family



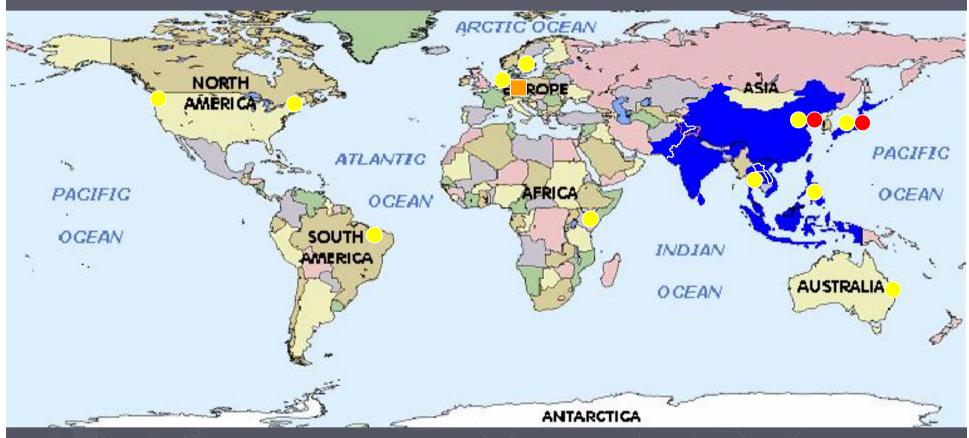


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GWSP – A World Wide Network

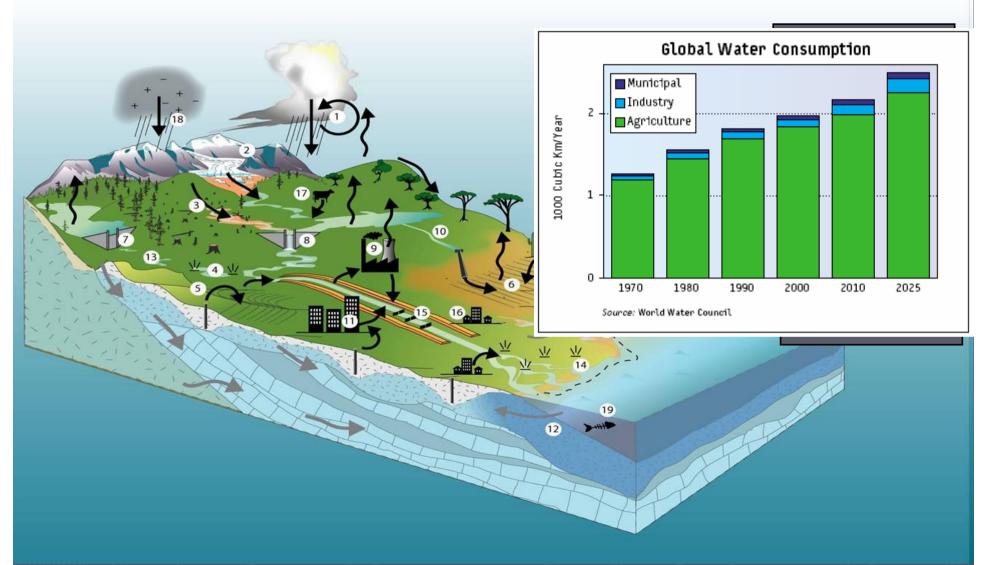


Legend

- Member of Scientific Steering Committee (currently 14 members)
- GWSP International Project Office (staff: 4 full-time, 3 part-time)
- National GWSP Committee (Japan, China)
- GWSP Asia Network (representatives from 10 Asian countries)

The Global Water System





Working definition: The global suite of water-related human, physical, biological, and biogeochemical components and their interactions.



GWSP – Central Tenet

Human-induced changes to the water system are now global in extent, yet we lack an adequate understanding of how the system works and responds to disturbances, and how society can best adapt to rapidly-evolving new system states.



Overarching Question

How are human actions changing the global water system and what are the environmental and socio-economic feedbacks arising from the anthropogenic changes in the global water system?



Framing Questions (Themes)

- 1. What are the magnitudes of anthropogenic and environmental changes in the GWS and what are the key mechanisms by which they are induced?
- 2. What are the main linkages and feedbacks within the Earth system, arising from changes in the GWS?
- 3. How resilient and adaptable is the GWS to changes, and what are sustainable management strategies?

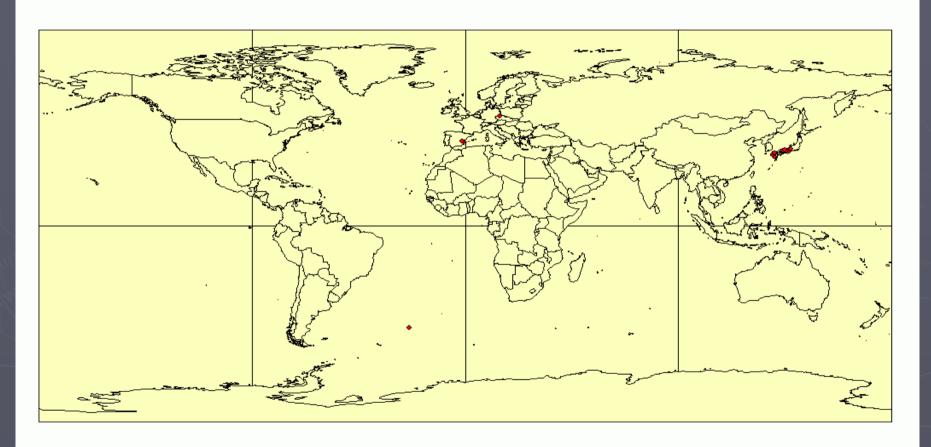
www.gwsp.org

Increase in Reservoirs

Global Reservoir Database

~1750年

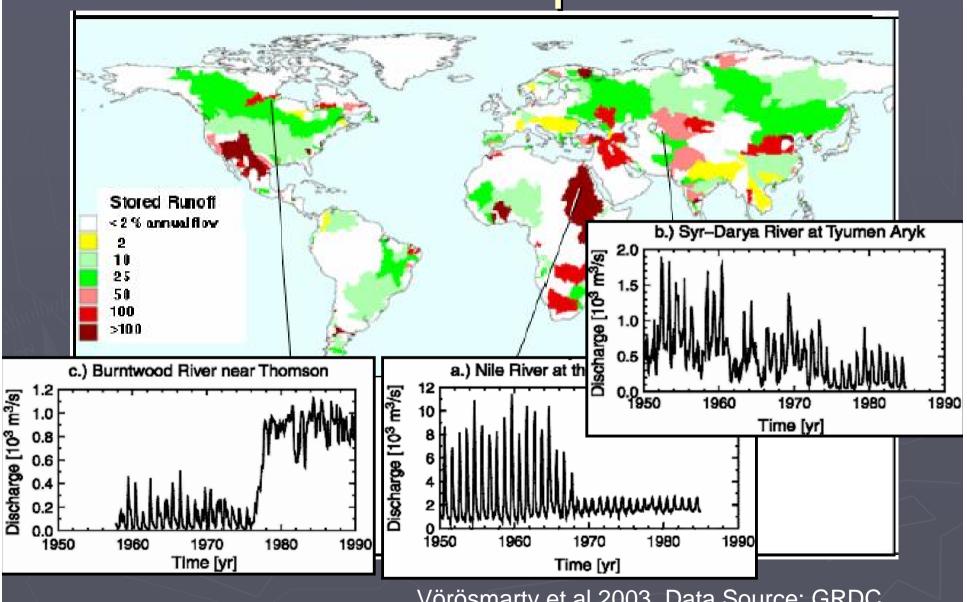
13,382dams



Today, there are >45,000 dams above 15 m high capable of holding back >6500 km³ of water, or about 15% of the total annual river runoff globally Nielsson et al., 2005 (Science, Vol. 308, pp 405-408)



Human Impacts



Vörösmarty et al.2003, Data Source: GRDC

Theme 1 Magnitudes and Mechanisms of Change

- Aim
 - S Documentation & Attribution
- Activities
 - § 1.1: Water Governance & the GWS
 - § 1.2: Land Cover Changes ...
 - § 1.3: Climate Change ...
 - § 1.4: Water Diversions ...
 - § 1.5: Nutrient and Sediment Transport ...



Framing Questions (Themes)

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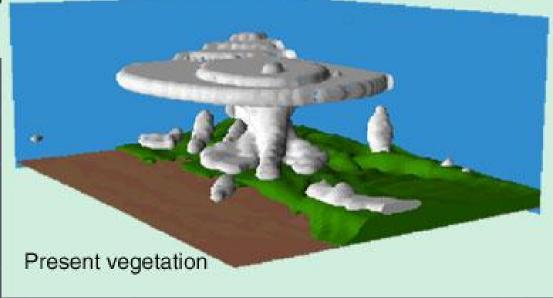
Land Use-Atmosphere Interactions



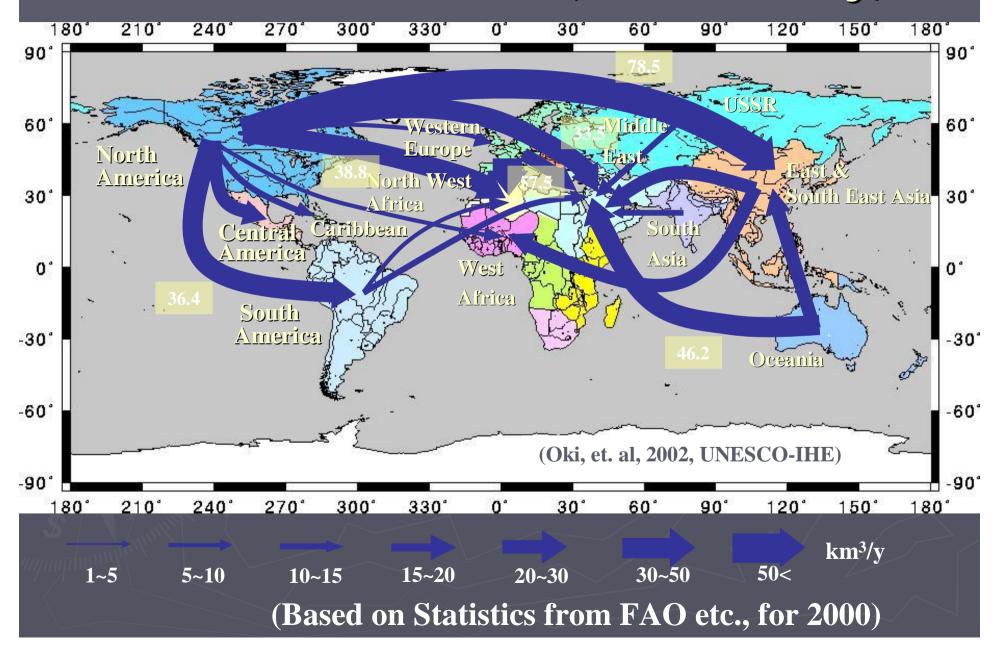
Pielke et al. 2001



Natural vegetation



Virtual Water Flow (Cereals Only)





Theme 2 Linkages & Feedbacks

- Aim
 - § Gain holistic understanding
- Activities
 - § 2.1: Linkages at Different Spatial Scales in GWS
 - § 2.2: Legacy of Human and Natural Interactions ...

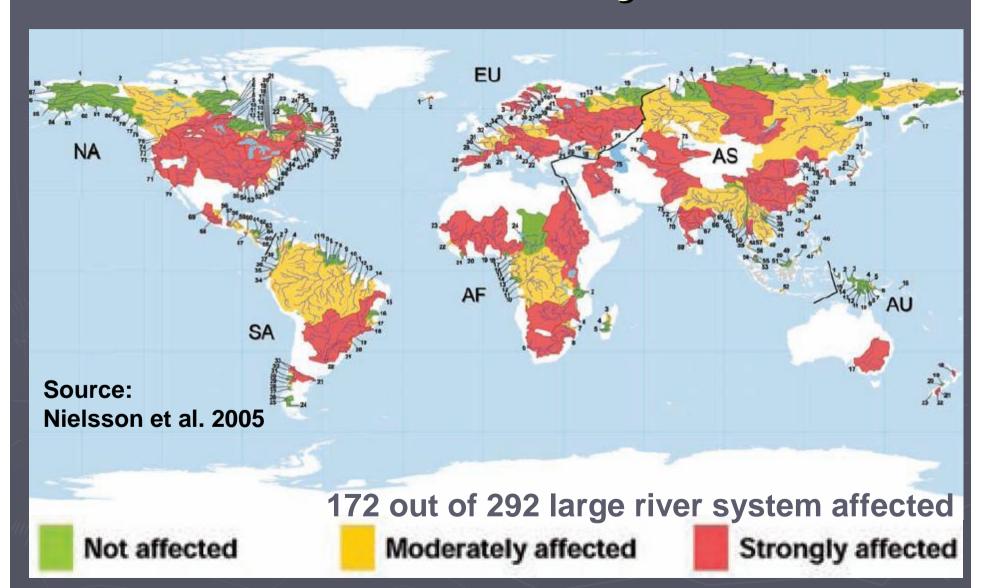


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Basins Affected by Dams



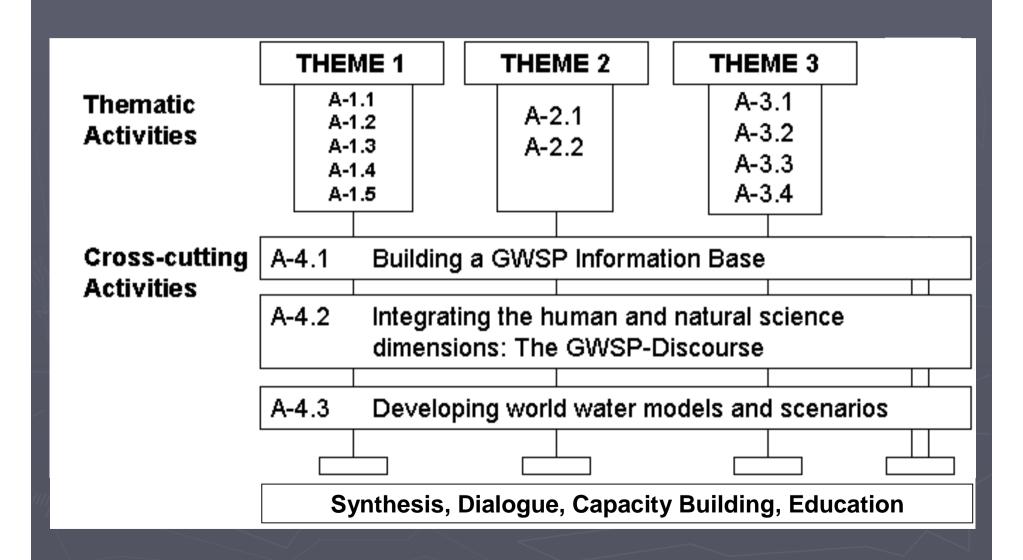


Theme 3 Resilience & Adaptation

- Aim: Understand implications for the future & inform policy
- Activities
 - § 3.1: Water Requirements for Nature & Humans
 - § 3.2: The Nature of Adaptive Capacity of GWS
 - § 3.3: Approaches to Enhance Adaptive Capacity
 - § 3.4: The Provision of Ecosystem Goods & Services by the GWS



Cross-cutting Research Activities





Fast-Track Activities

- **▶** Digital water atlas
- ► Improved world water balance
- ► An assessment of global water governance
- ► Input to international initiatives such as NEESPI
- ► A global study of environmental flows
- Advanced (educational) institute on "Global Environmental Change and Water"
- ► Harmonisation of GWS terminology through a GWS lexicon



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Information & Data Needs

- Information to support science (IPO Database)
 - § Project management
 - § Project support
 - § Networking
- Information & Data to do science (Atlas/Lexicon)
 - § Analyse states/changes of the GWS
 - § Assess scenarios of future states and potential mitigation/adaptation strategies
- ► Information about science
 - § For the public, Stakeholders, etc.



IPO Database

- Objective
 - § Provide data for the management and support of the global network
- ► Main info elements
 - § Network members
 - § Endorsed projects (see endorsement procedure)
 - § Associated/related projects/initiatives
 - § Metadata about available resources
- Implementation
 - § Web-based (using Open Source software)



GWSP Digital Water Atlas

Objectives

- describe the basic elements of
 - § the Global Water System
 - § the interlinkages of the elements
 - § changes in the state of the Global Water
- create a consistent set of annotated maps
 - § Description/interpretation, related maps
 - § (Meta)data



Data Needs

– GWSP Digital Water Atlas –

- Climate/weather (measurements & statistics)
- Water quantity
 - § Availability
 - § Demand
 - § Withdrawals
 - § Consumption (for different users)
- Water quality
- ► Irrigated areas
- Dams & reservoirs

- Biodiversity
- ► Land cover / use
- Water stress
- Human-induced disturbances
- Water governance
- ► International treaties
- Base data
 - § Watersheds
 - § Country borders
 - § Aquatic eco-regions



Atlas Implementation

- ▶ Web-based interactive Atlas
- **Software environment:**
 - § ESRI ArcIMS (Internet Map Server)
 - § MySQL
 - § Linux OS
 - § Apache webserver
- Set of fundamental maps/datasets defined
- Release of fist subset
 - § end of 2006
 - § www.gwsp.org

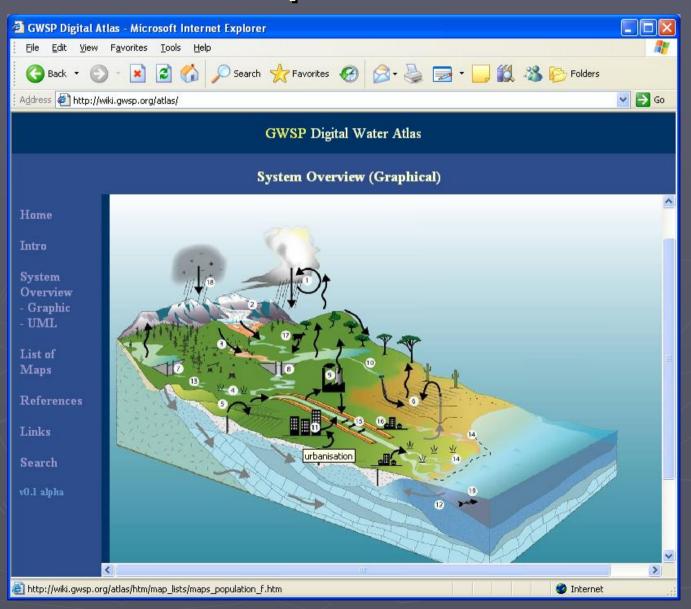


Atlas – System Overview



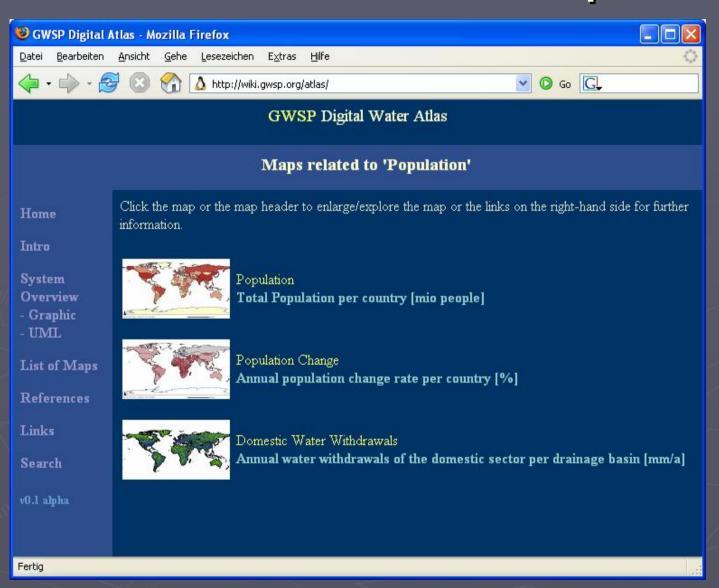


Atlas – Graphical Overview



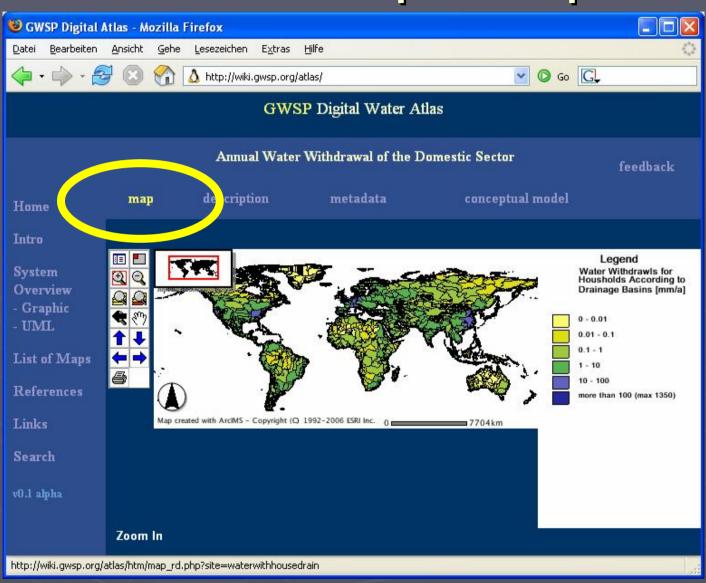


Atlas – Thematic Maps



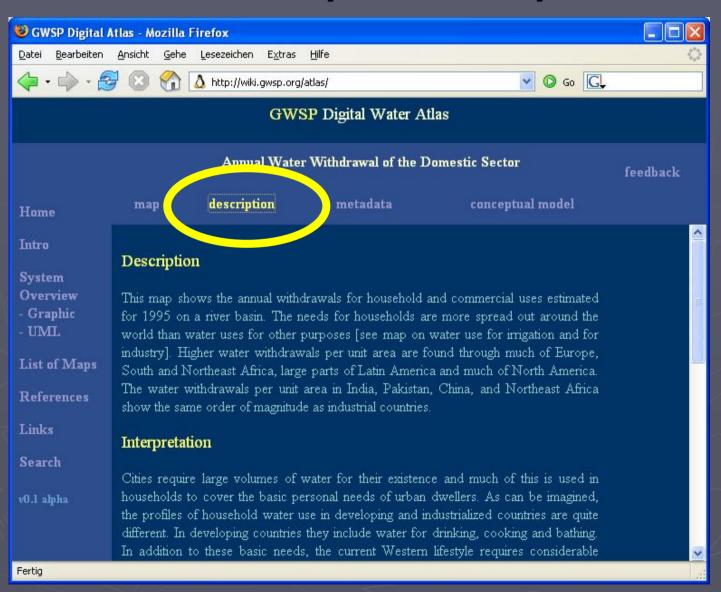


Atlas – Example Map I



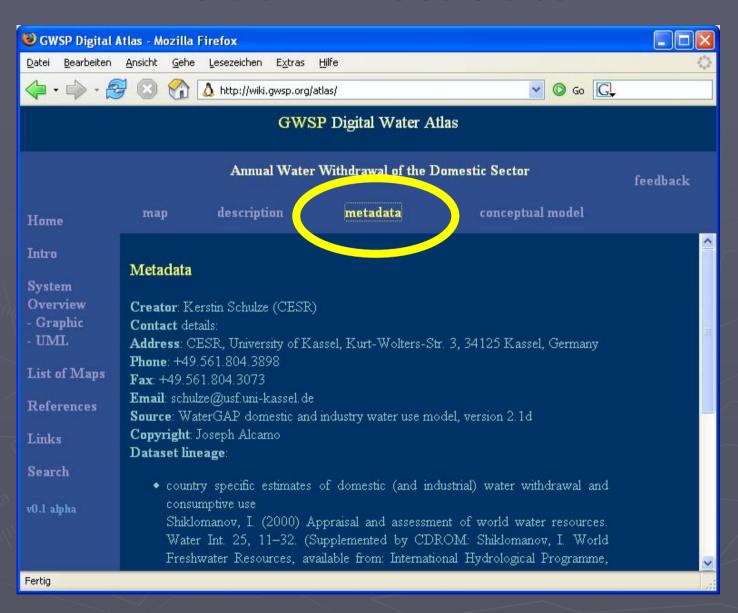


Atlas – Map Description



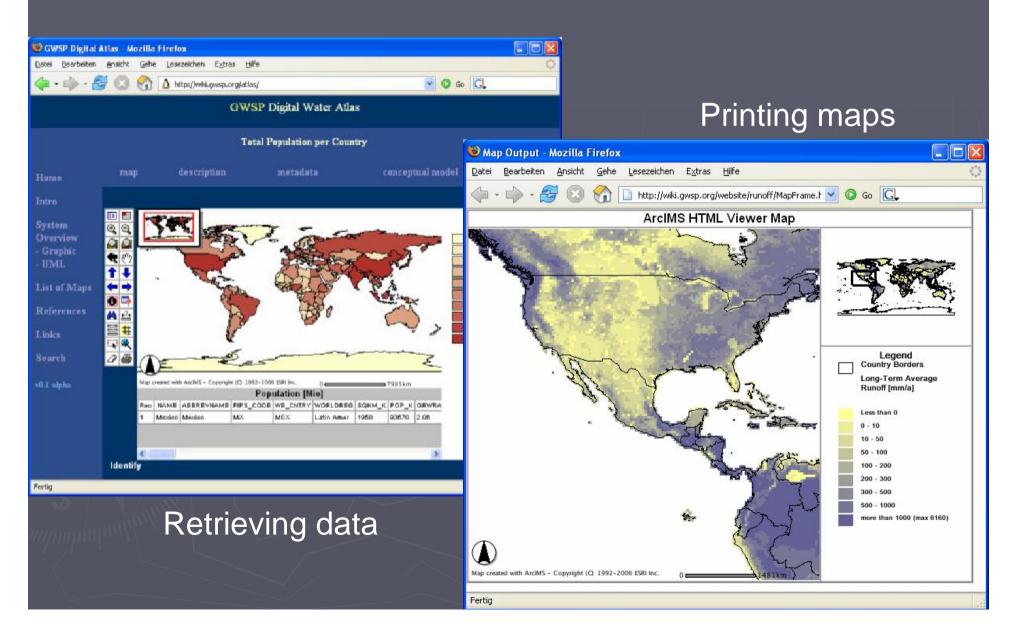


Atlas - Metadata



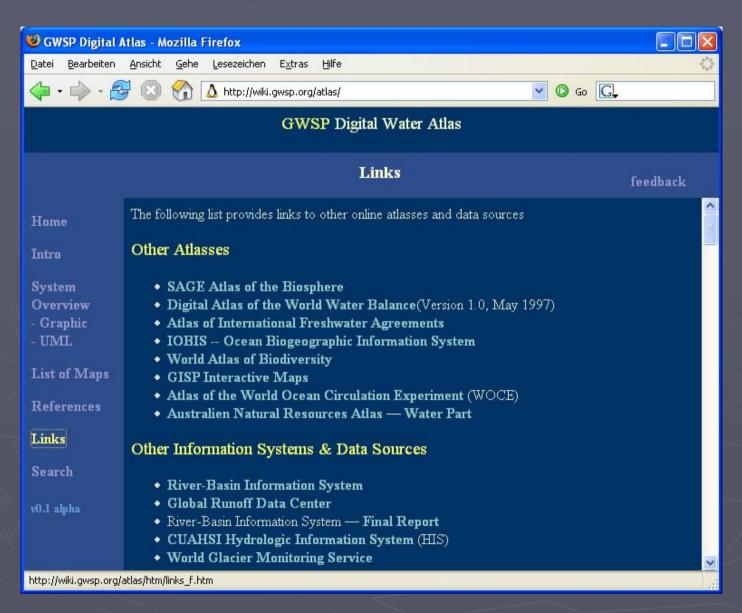


Atlas – IMS Functionalities





Atlas – Links





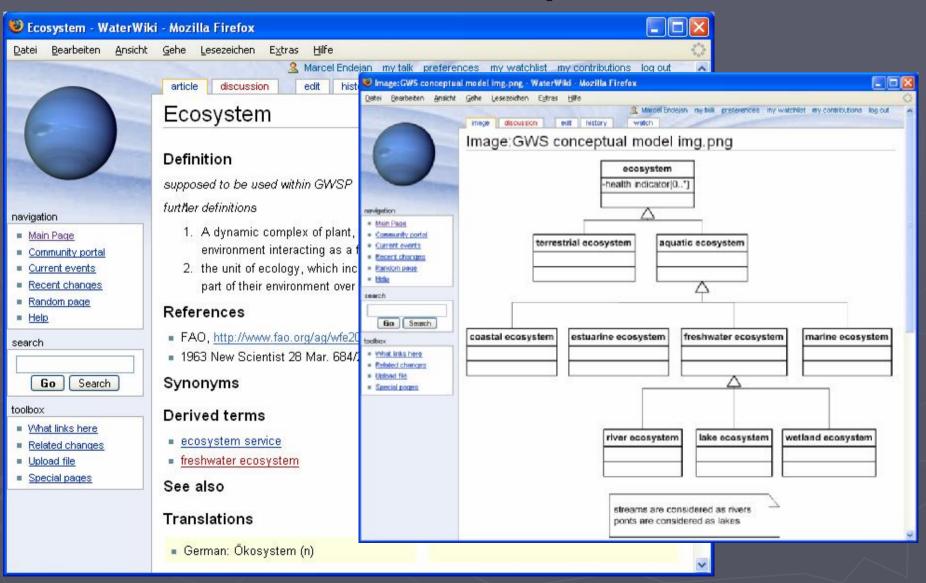
GWSP Lexicon

Objectives

- Provide consistent set of term definitions
- Provide basis / support development of conceptual model
- ► Encourage discourse between scientific disciplines Implementation
- One/more definition(s) for each term
- Graphical notation to show important links
- Software environment
 - § Wiki (wikimedia)
 - § LAMP (Linux, Apache, MySQL, PHP)

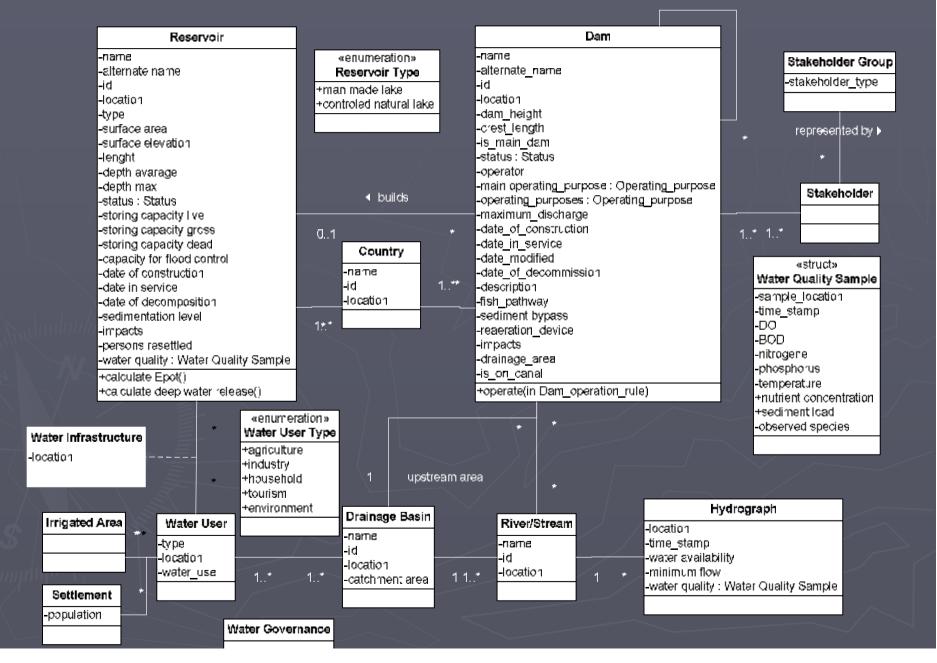


Lexicon and Conceptual Model



Conceptual Model – UML Example ***







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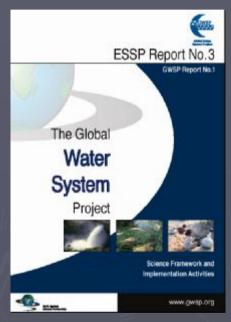
Conclusion

- **►** GWSP
 - § Study (changes in) the global freshwater water system using a systems approach
- ► Information and data needed
 - § to support, undertake and inform about science
 - § Datasets from different scientific fields
- Current Tools
 - § Databases, GIS
 - § Web technologies (WMS, WIKI)
 - § UML

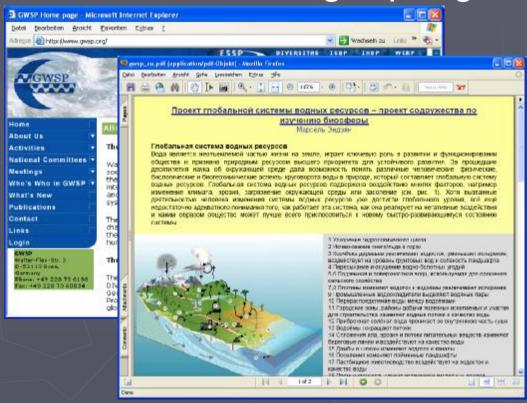


Further Information

Science Framework



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GWSP Publication Series
Printed Newsletter
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Thank You

