

Groundwater information – the National Groundwater Archive and Opensource QGIS

presented by Nicolette Vermaak and Immo Blecher.

Workshop:	Sunday, 15 October 2017
Registration:	8:30 am to 9am
Time:	9am to 5pm (lunch included)
Venue:	Spier Hotel and Conference Centre, Stellenbosch

The Groundwater Information Systems workshop will appeal to all that deal with data and processing of data. The National Groundwater Strategy (NGS) recognizes that “the regular collection, analysis and dissemination of data and information are fundamental for any programme of groundwater management that wants to influence policy, decision makers and public opinion”. The NGS further notes that the “lack of information and lack of access to information are the two issues widely identified by experts and stakeholders as constraining the development of effective strategies and policies for managing groundwater”. In this regard Ms Nicolette Vermaak of the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) will present at the workshop the National Groundwater Archive (NGA) – what information is available on the data base and how to use it? The NGA is the DWS web enabled database system that allows capturing, viewing, modifying and extraction (dissemination) of groundwater related data.

Immo Blecher will also introduce QGIS at the workshop. QGIS is the best and most powerful GIS tool in the free and open-source software community. Like any of its commercial competitors QGIS can create, edit, visualise, analyse and publish geospatial information. It can open numerous popular file formats, including shapefiles, imagery, digital elevation models and spatial layers on MySQL, PostgreSQL, SQLite and many other databases.

PROGRAMME

- 8:30 - 9:00 Workshop registration open
- 9:00 - 9:30 Background (history of the development)
- 9:30 - 10:00 Registering for using the NGA
- 10:00 - 10:30 Tea break
- 10:30 - 11:00 Data available on the NGA
- 11:00 - 11:30 Different ways to extract data from the NGA
- 11:30 - 12:00 Cleaning up the data extracted.
- 12:00 – 13:00 Lunch
- 13:00 – 14:00 Introduction to QGIS for Hydrogeologists
- 14:00 – 15:30 Practical session
- 15:30 – 16:00 Tea break
- 16:00 – 17:00 Practical session

Please note the following request from the organisers of the Workshop:

- that you please bring your own laptop computer (with flash drive port);
- that you have the latest stable QGIS (2.18.*) installed.

If you are unable to bring your laptop, you can follow along with the demonstrations and presentations. You may also be able to work together with a neighbour on the practical exercises. We would, however, strongly recommend that you bring your own laptop, if at all possible.

We will provide you with basic data sets for the training, but you are welcome to bring your own along. We will also provide the presentations to you, either as a printout or in electronic format.