

SADC Groundwater Monitoring Questionnaire

- Groundwater level is the most important single indicator of the state of a groundwater system. Knowledge of level and behaviour in response to external influences on an aquifer, such as recharge or abstraction allows the hydrogeologist to assess groundwater storage and inter physical characteristics of the aquifer including transmissivity.
- Monitoring schemes provide data that may be used to characterize the state of an aquifer on a particular date, or to study the variation in level with time.
- The monitoring of groundwater levels is a vital prerequisite for the good management of water resources and provides information essential to any actions designed to reduce pollution, including the formulation and implementation of policies for groundwater protection.

McKenzie et al. (1994)

1. Is any groundwater monitoring undertaken in your country?
2. Is there a national strategy/programme for groundwater monitoring? Who supervises this programme?
3. Are monitoring programmes National; Regional; Local; Solely Project Based
4. What is monitored Regional aquifers; Local aquifers; Production wellfields
[If possible please indicate names/areas etc]
5. Is monitoring undertaken Manually;
Local instrumentation [digital data loggers]
Using instrumentation and telemetry
[If possible please indicate approximate proportions of each]
6. Who is responsible for monitoring data collection?
7. Is monitoring regularly scheduled or ad hoc? *[Please indicate frequency]*
8. In monitoring undertaken in specific monitoring boreholes or in production/hand pump boreholes?
9. Is any quality control exercised on data collection? *[Please indicate what QA]*
10. Who is responsible for monitoring data archiving and/or evaluation?
11. How is data archived Digital; Hard Copy How many records over what period?
12. Is monitoring data archive up to date?
13. Is the monitoring data assessed and/or evaluated For what purposes and how frequently?
14. Who funds current groundwater monitoring programmes?
15. Are there any national/regional plans or aspirations to expand or improve the groundwater monitoring?

16. What technical expertise is available to support or expand groundwater monitoring systems?
17. What additional capacity building or expertise would be required?
18. Would there be sufficient interest and capacity to actively participate in a SADC-wide monitoring programme which may involve telemetric data collection and inter-state data sharing?*[Please comment]*