

Karst-hydrologic studies in Austria – documentation according to the Austrian Environmental Control Act

Franko Humer, Martin Kralik & Johannes Grath

Umweltbundesamt GmbH, Spittelauer Lände 5, A-1090 Vienna;
franko.humer@umweltbundesamt.at

The Austrian Environmental Control Act (Federal Legal Gazette No. 152/1998) commits the Umweltbundesamt GmbH (Federal Environment Agency Ltd) to collect and document the karst-hydrologic studies in Austria.

According to this obligation two reports were published. The first report covers the period from the fifties up to the year 1991. The second one covers the period from 1992 to 1997. These two reports include master files of each study containing the most important and common terms like investigation area, author(s), working title, abstract, period of investigation, supplements, province(s) and a small outline map with the project area.

Tracing these papers was extraordinary time consuming. As electronic data processing and internet were not available in the past these first evaluations contain only data sheets, listings of the methods and results of the investigations but no abstracts.

The documentation of the karst-hydrologic studies should be a support for persons working in the field of applied karsthydrology and research scientists not only to get a complete overview of the papers in an interested area but also to find karst-hydrologic studies sorted by the terms mentioned above. In order to get in contact with future authors and the aim to complete the documentation of the karst-hydrologic studies the Umweltbundesamt GmbH - in conformity with the state of the art - decided to develop a web based database of the karst-hydrologic studies in Austria. The information on karst-hydrologic studies will be accessible for the general public.

The database enables the user to search for karst-hydrologic studies in Austria by author, mountain group, province, coordinates of the Austrian Map, year of publication and the most common keywords based on the outcome of a respective workshop. In addition to the two published reports the database allows the user to get an overview about each study due to provided abstracts, information about the author(s), use limitations and constraints, type and extent of data, links ...