



Horizon 2020 European Union funding for Research & Innovation



#### The Horizon 2020 FREEWAT project: FREE and open source software tools for WATer resource management

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 DA
 Sezione della protezione dell'aria dell'acqua e del suolo

Ufficio della protezione delle acque e dell'approvvigionamento idrico

Lugano, CH September 12 University of Applied Sciences and Arts of Southern Switzerland

SUPSI







- Introduction to the FREEWAT concept and aims
- Tools incorporated into the FREEWAT GIS plugin
- The Ceresio Case Study (next presentation)



#### www.freewat.eu

# FREEWAT is an ICT project for improving Water Resource Management (WRM)

#### MAIN EXPECTED RESULT

Open source and public domain GIS integrated modelling platform for promoting WRM by simplifying and strengthening the application of WFD, GWD and other water related Directives.

#### FREEWAT expected main impact $\rightarrow$

help producing scientifically and technically sounding decision and policy making based on:

- data and innovative data analysis tools and
- including participatory approach not only in the final stage of discussion but also during the phase of scenario generation.



#### **Concept and Motivations**

1. free and open source tools, numerically based, GIS integrated, to to analyse conjunctive use of surface- and ground-water, and to boost the application of the WFD and water related Directives;

2. use effectively data provided by the extensive monitoring required by the WFD;

3. training technical staff at authorities and private companies on the use of state-of-the-art innovative software for water management;

4. including participatory approach earlier than only result discussion;

Open source characteristics of the project  $\rightarrow$ 

initiative "ad includendum" - further research institutions, private developers etc. may contribute to the project development



#### **FREEWAT Consortium**







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# **FREEWAT circular economy**

#### SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT AND CAPACITY BUILDING

- Building the software platform (WP2)
- Training the trainers (WP3)
- National scale training at Consortium countries level (WP3)

#### APPLY THE FREEWAT PLATFORM (WP4/5/6)

- Postulate the problem you have to solve;
- Gather the data;
- Discuss the data with relevant stakeholders;
- Start the model implementation;
- Involve the stakeholders during model implementation and calibration;
- Apply the model for solving your problem;
- Producing policies!





# FREEWAT CAPACITY BUILDING

- Large stakeholders involvement (more than 200 stakes involved)
- Web social and professional networks

(linkedin group yet 370 followers – twitter: 256 followers







### **FREEWAT case studies**

#### 14 case studies:

- 8 for the application of WFD, GWD and others (EU countries) plus
  1 case study in Switzerland
- 5 devoted to rural water management: 2 EUs, Turkey, Ukraine, and Africa (through UNESCO involvement)





#### **FREEWAT** architecture

UPSCALING from cell results

WATER MANAGEMENT AND PLANNING MODULE

SPACE AND TIME DISTRIBUTED DATA SPACE AND TIME DISTRIBUTED DATA Surface and Groundwater Flow Simulation

> Observation Analysis Tool

GIS AND SPATIAL DATABASE



Calibration Sensitivity Analysis

Parameter estimation

Water quality issues simulation and analysis tools

Rural water management module



# FREEWAT PLATFORM ADVANTAGES vs. commercial simulation platform

- Unite the power of GIS geo-processing and post-processing tools in spatial data analysis to that of simulation software
- The chance for public authorities to build a high informative and dynamically growing representation of a hydrologic system (i.e. river basin) where perfoming data storage and planning analysis
- WRM modules thought for decision-making and policy applications
- No cost for licences (money can be moved to development of client tailored applications)







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#### Pre-processing Hydrogeological Data. AkvaGIS Tools



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# **OAT in a nutshell**

#### **Overview**

Time series are a key aspect in environmental modelling, and more and more are getting important with the increasing establishment of diffuse, online and real-time monitoring networks.

# Using OAT you can upload, explore, analyse and get the maximum value out of your observations.

In particular, they are important as a means of:

- understanding the system to be modelled and thus support the preparation of model input data
- verification of models results and thus help to calibrate your model.





#### The FARM PROCESS (FMP)/1

- fully-coupled, hydrologic model to dynamically estimate the integrated supply-and-demand components of irrigated agriculture as part of the simulation of surface and ground-water flow
- FMP includes the possibility to route water supplies towards water accounting units through surface irrigation channels.





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- 1 Transpiration from native and riparian vegetation
- ② Natural and artifical recharge
- ③ Dry-land agriculture
- (4) Aquifer storage-and-recovery systems
- (5) Farm demand for irrigation from multiple sources of water
- (6) Non-routed deliveries as multiple water transfers to multiple delivery locations



Water-accounting units

⑦ Routed surface-water delivery to farm from canals and rivers

(10)

(8)

- (8) Groundwater pumpage from singleand multi-screened/multi-aquifer irrigation and supply wells
- (9) Runoff and drain return flows to rivers and canals
- Delayed artificial recharge through unsaturated zone





- A technique to describe the hydraulic interaction between a lake and the surrounding aquifer so that the effect of changes in either water body on conditions in the other can be estimated
- Can Incorporate:
  - rate of lake atmospheric recharge
  - evaporation,
  - overland runoff rate after precipitation
  - rate of any direct withdrawal
- Separate water Budget for the lakes
- Sections of the lake can dry and re-wet
- Can be integrated into the SFR package







### **Transport**

The original version of MT3DMS solves the solute transport equation related to saturated flow (ADE- Advection, Dispersion Equation) for one or more solute components.

The following processes can be simulated:

Adsorption/desorption (linear and nonlinear, equilibrium and non equilibrium conditions)

**Decay terms** (first order or 0-order) to represent natural/radioactive decay and/or to estimate bio-degradation processes

#### Dual domain mass transfer.

It is possible to define **source/sink terms** (point-wise or area distributed)

It is possible to simulate heat transfer (by treating temperature as a particular species)



### MT3DMS

MT3DMS belongs to the so-called "MODFLOW-related" codes, and it is used by a huge community of modelers, around the world, for both academic and commercial purposes.

The most frequent applications are:

- ✓ Contaminated sites characterization
- ✓ Assessment of aquifers vulnerability
- Environmental impact assessment related to pollutant sources (existing or foreseen), with respect to *target* objects, like water wells, rivers, etc.
- Design of site remediation strategies (hydraulic barriers, pump-and-treat, etc..), even using *bio-remediation*
- Estimating the location of a pollutant source, knowing its effect (however, this is a difficult task)



# MT3DMS/2

MT3DMS has the following limitations (phenomena not addressable)

- ✓ Multi-phase flow (e.g. water + oil, water liquid + water vapor, etc.)
- ✓ Flow depending on density, temperature or viscosity (see below!!)
- ✓ Unsaturated flow (see below!!)
- ✓ Simulation of intra-species reaction (geochemical reactions). For these problems the following code can be suggested: PHT3 (MT3DMS/PHREEQC-based reactive multicomponent transport model)



# MT3DMS/3

Estimating the (positive!) effect of aquifer heterogeneity, with respect to the pollutant diffusion





#### **Eventual extension:**

The intergation of the new version of MT3DMS is in progress. Such a version (named MT3DMS-USGS) allows simulating also transport phenomena related to unsaturated flow.

- ✓ MT3DMS is coupled with flux computed by Package UZF in MODFLOW (1D simulation of vadose zone, using the *kinematic-wave approximation*)
- In FREEWAT everything is ready to host this new version: we are still waiting for the official release by USGS !!
- ✓ We are planning to include also different packages included in thsi new version, like the interesting coupling with MODFLOW Package SFR2, to simulate also the transport process occurring at the sw/gw interface (package named SFT Stream Flow Transport)



#### Calibration/Sensitivity Analysis with UCODE

Given the model as constructed:

#### Sensitivity analysis

- How important is each observation to each parameter? And to all parameters?
- How important are observations to predictions?
- What new observations would be most useful to estimated parameters? To predictions?
- What parameter values produce the best fit to observations?
  Calibration



## **Particle Tracking**

MODPATH is a **particle-tracking** postprocessing model that computes threedimensional flow paths using output from groundwater-flow simulations based on MODFLOW. The particle tracking is based on simple **advection**, so it is not as accurate as MT3DMS, but is a **fast** alternative to determine flow paths.

Currently v6 is used, but a new version, ModPath OBS will be available shortly

