Title: Groundwater drought: influencing factors, effects and efficacy of potential adaptation measures

During the past years, Europe has been confronted with frequent, long and intense periods of drought. This has also affected groundwater levels, which have been low or very low in many areas. Low groundwater levels may impact vegetation, crops, drinking water production, water quality, soil stability, river water levels, … This project aims to identify the different (natural and human) influencing factors on groundwater drought and to study its effects on groundwater levels and groundwater discharge. This project also aims to quantify the efficacy of potential adaptation measures against drought and water scarcity such as managed aquifer recharge, aquifer storage and recovery, different drainage and irrigation practices, reduction of groundwater extraction, … This will be done using a combination of data analysis, field work and groundwater flow modelling.

Supervisor: marijke.huysmans@vub.be

Research Group: http://www.hydr.vub.ac.be/

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