

# Challenges of the Groundwater Management in Can Tho City, Vietnam

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**Environmental Engineering + Ecology**  
**Professor Dr. Harro Stolpe**  
**Ruhr-University Bochum**

# SANSED-Project

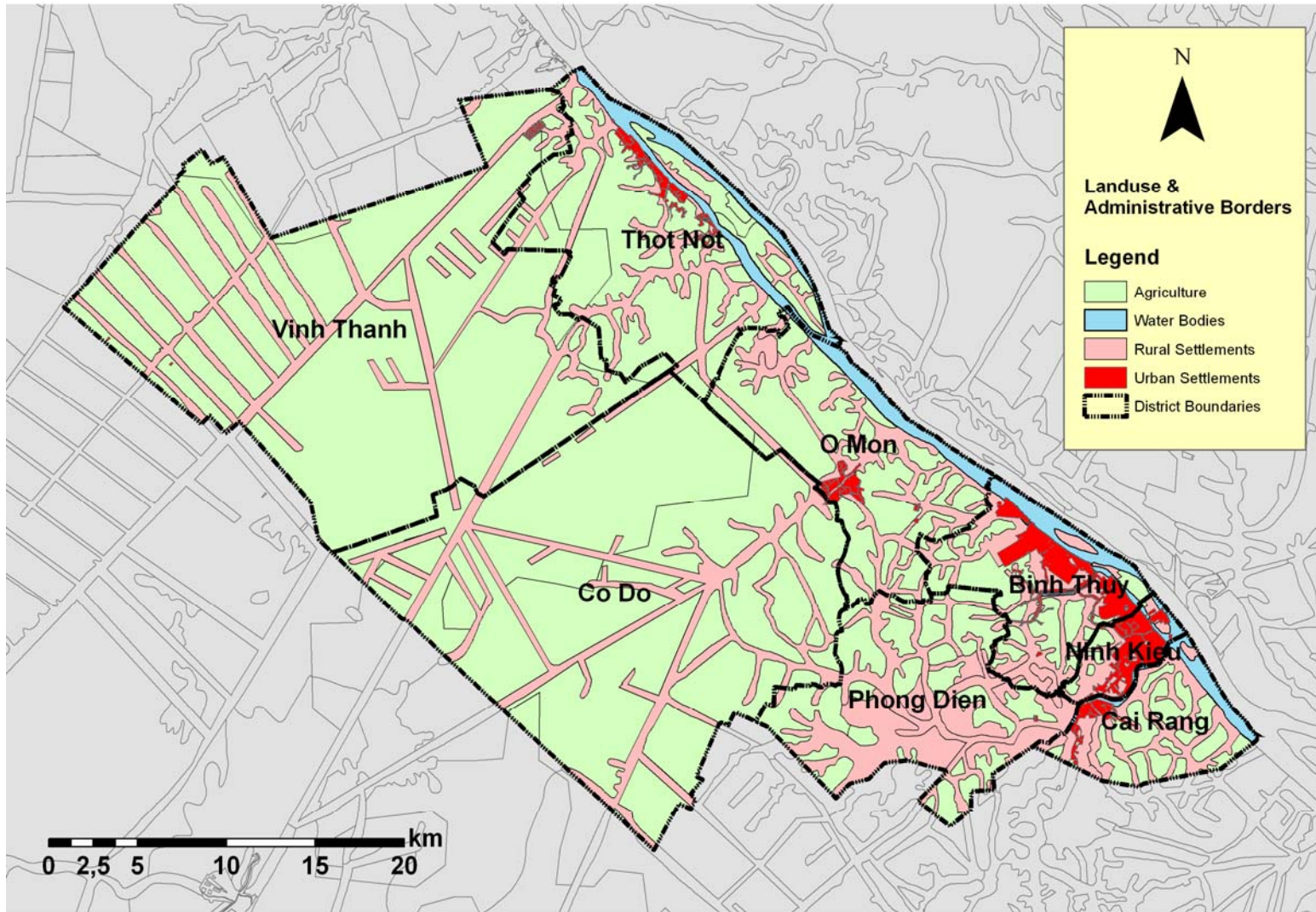
- Closing Nutrient Cycles in Decentralized Water Treatment Systems in the Mekong Delta, Vietnam
- 3 involved Universities
  - Ruhr University Bochum, Germany
  - University of Bonn, Germany (Coordinating)
  - University of Can Tho, Vietnam
- 8 German private companies
- 2003 – 2008
- Funded by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research of Germany (BMBF), PT FZ Karlsruhe

# Vietnam



- Can Tho

# Can Tho



# Can Tho



# Can Tho



# Sanitation in Vietnam

	2005	2010	2020
National Rural Clean Water Supply and Sanitation Strategy up to the Year 2020 (1998)		<u>Rural Areas</u> 85 % access to a min. of 60 l/d*capita  70 % access to latrines	<u>Rural Areas</u> 100% access to a min. of 60 l/d*capita  100% access to latrines
Vietnam Developmet Goals (2001)	<u>Water supply:</u> 60 % (rural areas) 80 % (urban areas)	<u>Water Supply:</u> 80 % (rural areas) 85 % (urban areas)  <u>Waste Water</u> Treatment of 100% of the urban waste water	

# Sanitation

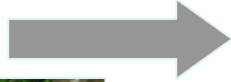
- Responsible Authorities
  - Center of Rural Water Supply and Sanitation  
(Department of Agriculture and Rural Development)
  - Department of Health
- Concept
  - Use of Septic Tanks
  - Use of Groundwater as hygienically safe drinking water resource
    - Remote areas: Small scale tube wells
    - Decentralized Water Treatment Plants  
(Groundwater, Capacity 60 m<sup>3</sup>/d)
  - VAC(B)-Modell



**Waste Water**  
from households  
and farms



untreated into  
canals



into fishponds

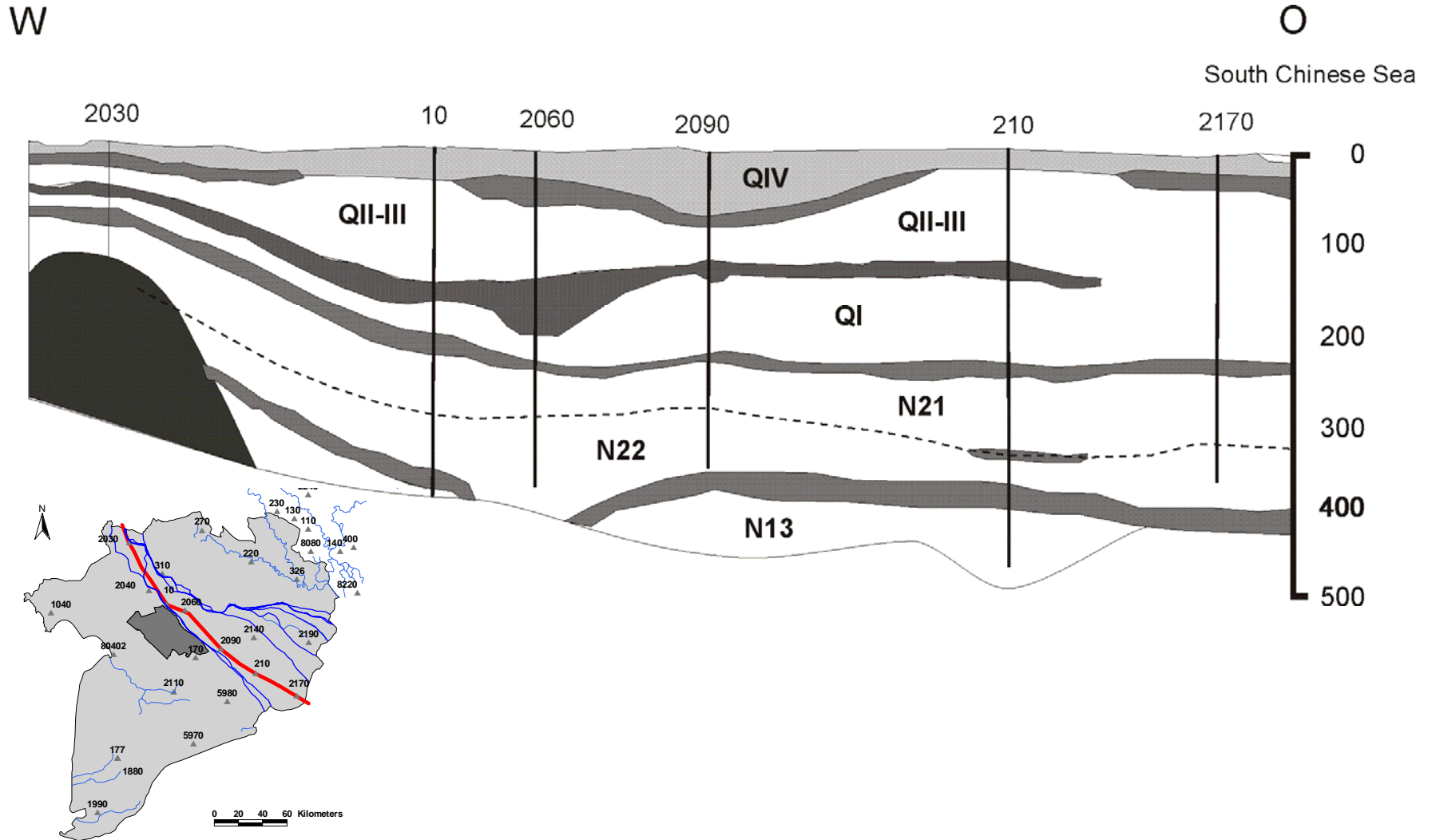


Septic tanks



in biogas digesters

# Groundwater Use



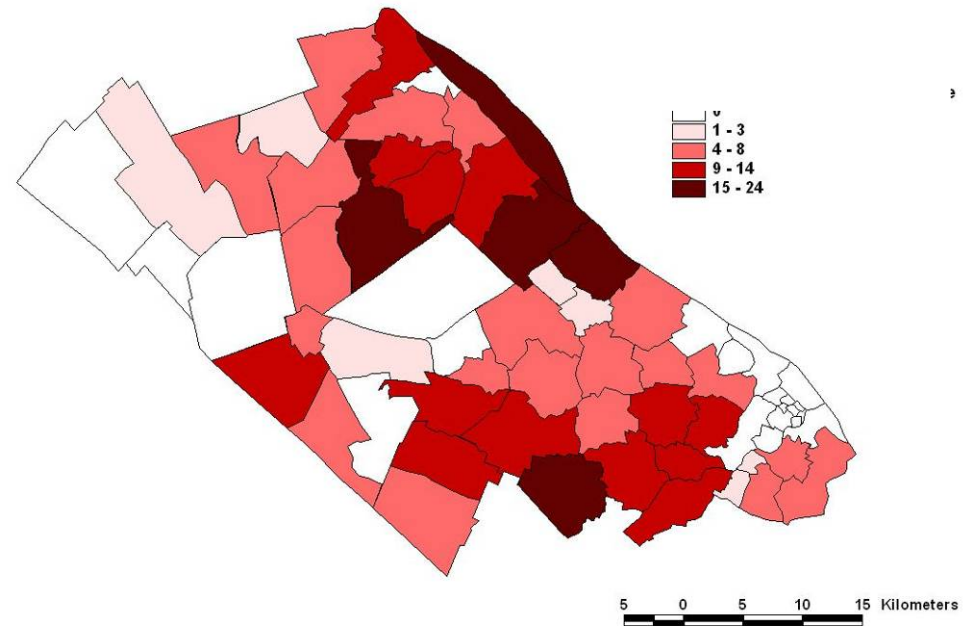
# Groundwater Use



**Accessed HHs per supply station**

396 ground water supply stations in Can Tho  
Accessed to QII-III

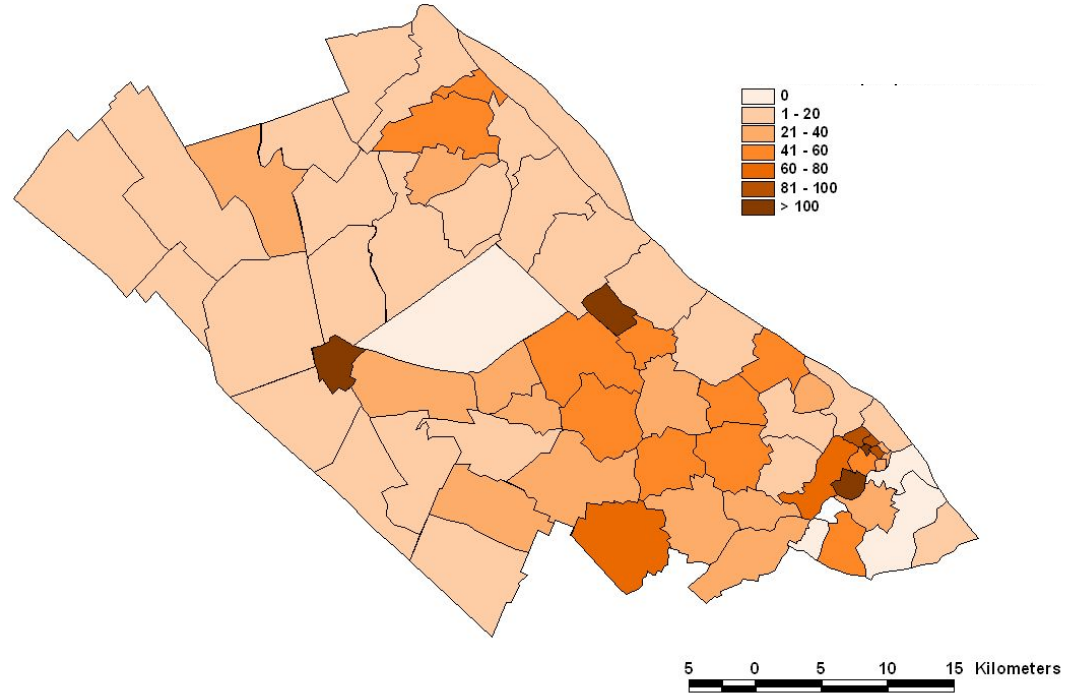
## Groundwater supply stations per community



# Groundwater Use

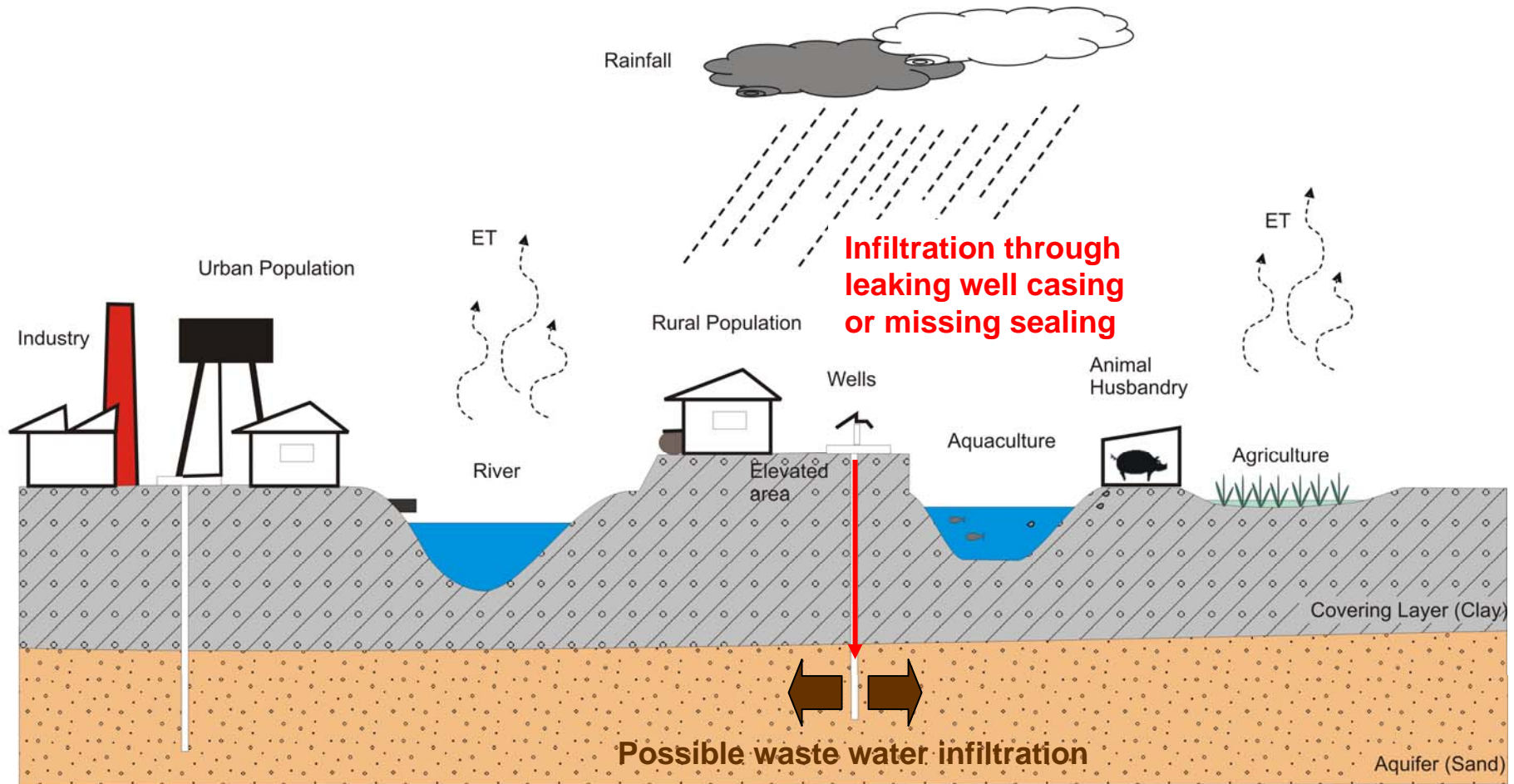


Small scale tube wells per km<sup>2</sup>



32.000 known small scale tube wells in Can Tho  
Depth 60 – 100 m below surface

# Impacts on Groundwater Quality

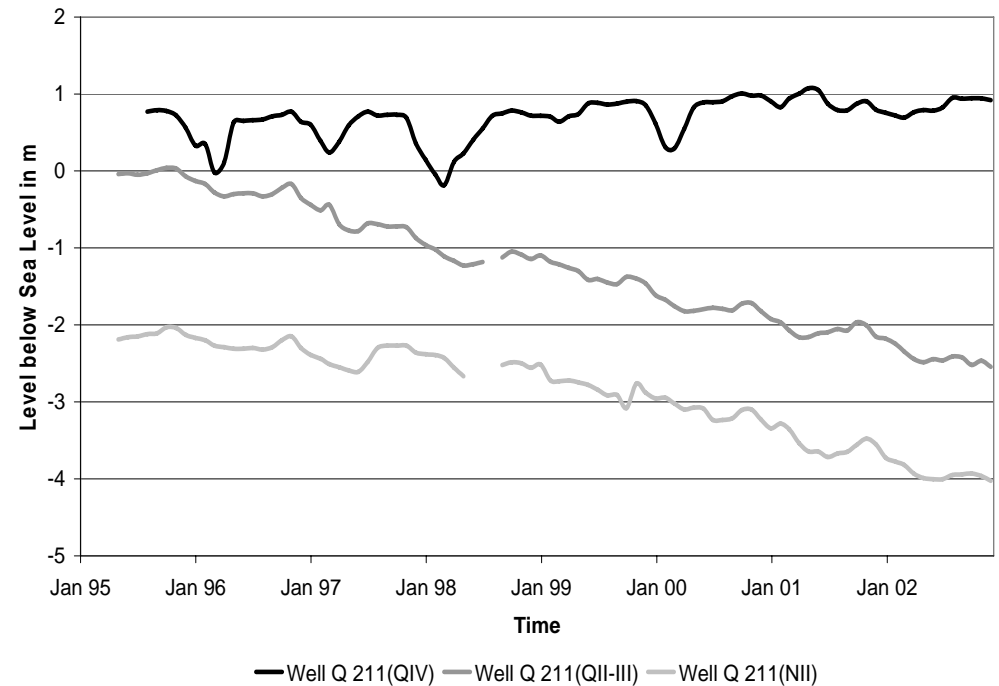


# Impacts on Groundwater Quantity

## Growing Pressures on Groundwater

- Rapid population and economical growth
- Use of surface water for waste water disposal
- Use of groundwater as a safe source

## Groundwater Resource



# Conclusions

## QUALITY IMPACTS

- Good protection of main aquifer through the covering layer
- Possible impacts on groundwater quality through wells
  - Short cuts because of leaking well casings or missing sealing
  - Use of „dry“ small scale tube wells for „waste water disposal“ reported

## QUANTITY IMPACTS

- Lack of waste water treatment causes higher groundwater abstraction
- Overexploitation of groundwater resources observed
  - Rapid declining groundwater tables
  - In 5 – 10 years use of GW through suction pumps not possible anymore

# Approaches

- Implementation of decentralized waste water treatment concepts ([www.sansed.uni-bonn.de](http://www.sansed.uni-bonn.de))
- Removal of small scale tube wells should include sophisticated backfill and sealing
- Implementation of alternative drinking water treatment methods
  - rainwater storage,
  - artificial groundwater recharge,
  - slow sand filtration
- Coordinated groundwater monitoring concept
  - Transboundary monitoring
  - Monitoring of quantity and quality
- Introduction of an IWRM-Concept ([www.iwrm.vn](http://www.iwrm.vn))



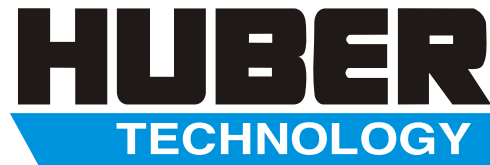
# Contact and more information

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# Outline

- Introduction
- Investigation Area
- Sanitation in Vietnam
- Groundwater Use in Can Tho City
- Impacts of Sanitation on Groundwater Quantity
- Impacts of Sanitation on Groundwater Quality
- Conclusions

# Involved Private Companies



# Vietnam in figures

	<b>VN</b>	<b>Germany</b>
<b>Population</b>	80 Mio.	82 Mio.
<b>Area</b>	327 000 km <sup>2</sup>	357 000 km <sup>2</sup>
<b>GDP</b>	36,40 Billion Euros	2 168,82 Billion Euros
<b>Economical Growth</b>	8 %	1 %
<b>Average Age</b>	26 years	40 years
<b>Climate</b>	tropical - subtropical	moderate

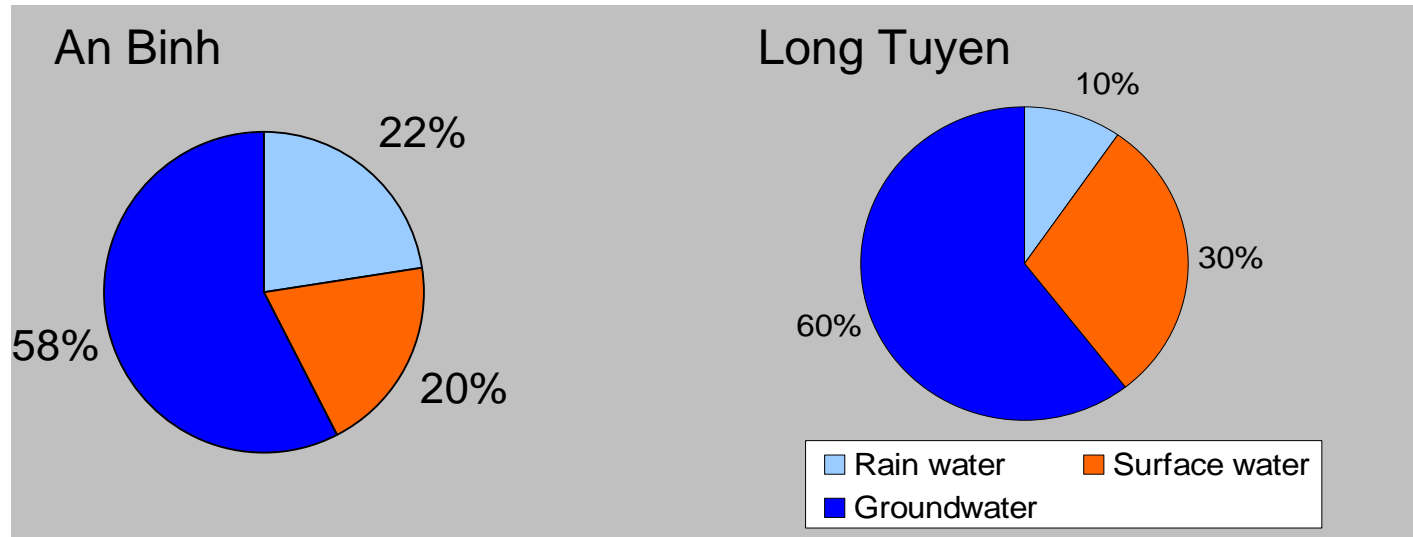
# Can Tho



# Idea of the Project



# Water sources utilised for drinking water purposes



- 60 % use of Groundwater as drinking water
- General: use of different water sources in parallel

(Wienecke, 2005)