

Uruguay

Capital city: Montevideo
Inhabitants: 3.4 Million



INSTITUTIONAL SETTING AND PURPOSE

The Ministry of Housing, Territorial Planning and Environment (MVOTMA) is responsible for the design and implementation of public water policies in Uruguay. The National Water Directorate (DINAGUA) under the MVOTMA is in charge of management, use and control of water resources with respect to extraction volumes, and the National Environment Directorate (DINAMA) is responsible for the quality of the water resources.

Within the framework of the National Water Plan (Plan Nacional de Aguas), approved in July 2017, a groundwater quality and quantity monitoring programme was proposed to be established. Its purpose is to monitor the status, quantity and the quality of the surface and groundwater resources through the knowledge of hydro-meteorological and environmental variables. Currently, there is no national groundwater monitoring network in Uruguay. Nevertheless, monitoring of groundwater is carried out locally.

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE NETWORK

The National Directorate of Mining and Geology (DINAMIGE) has been monitoring the Raigón Aquifer since 1986 and measuring mainly the groundwater level, conductivity and pH in approximately 40 wells twice a year (autumn and spring). Based on these measurements, a report is made and disseminated via the agency's website.

During 2013, DINAMIGE also resumed the monitoring of groundwater levels in the Salto-Arapey Aquifer that had been suspended in 1999.



Figure 1 – GGMN workshop in 2013

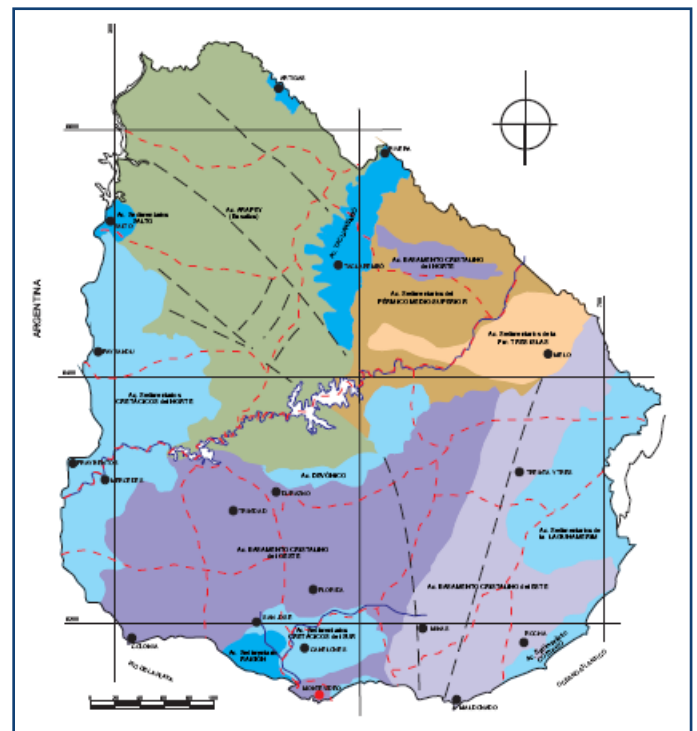


Figure 2 – Map of Aquifers of Uruguay

Sources

- **Feedback from CeReGAS (Regional Centre for Groundwater Management in Latin America and the Caribbean)** - received throughout 2019;
- **GGMN Workshop Montevideo** - 2013; and
- **Ministry of Industry, Energy and Mining. Monitoring of static levels & physical-chemical parameters in Raigón aquifer** -<https://www.miem.gub.uy/mineria-y-geologia/monitoreo-del-nivel-estatico-y-medida-de-parametros-fisico-quimicos-en-el-1>.