UNFC application to sand and gravel resources in an Austrian pilot area

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RESOURCE MANAGEMENT WEEK 2021

ENABLING SUSTAINABILITY PRINCIPLES IN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT



Classification of sand and gravel resources at a regional scale

irrespective of past, current or future mining projects



| traditional UNFC application | UNFC application to sand & gravel | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|
| | | |
| intensive exploration before mining | very limited exploration phase G4? | |
| technical feasibility study | no technical feasibility study F4? | |
| high cost & high risk operation | low cost & low risk operation | |
| project based | occurrence based | |

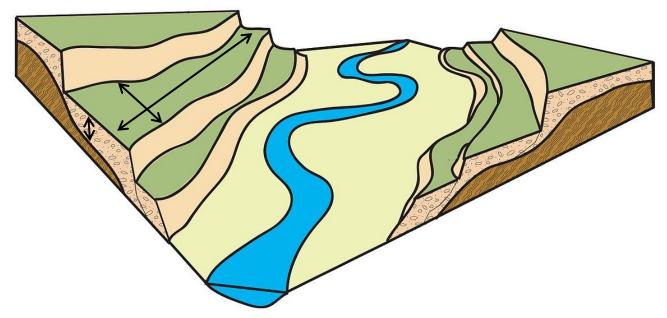
Allocation of E-axis and F-axis

| UNI | ECE |
|-----|-----|
|-----|-----|

| active pit | permitted area | E1 |
|--|--|-----------------|
| around active pit / around former pit / no pit | safeguarded areas | E1 |
| | outside conflict areas mining likely without conflict no negative environmental effects socially acceptable | E2 |
| | inside conflict areas negative environmental effects to be compensated social acceptance to be negotiated | E3.1 / E2 |
| | inside legal (or <i>de facto</i>) ban | E3.2 |

Allocation of G-axis

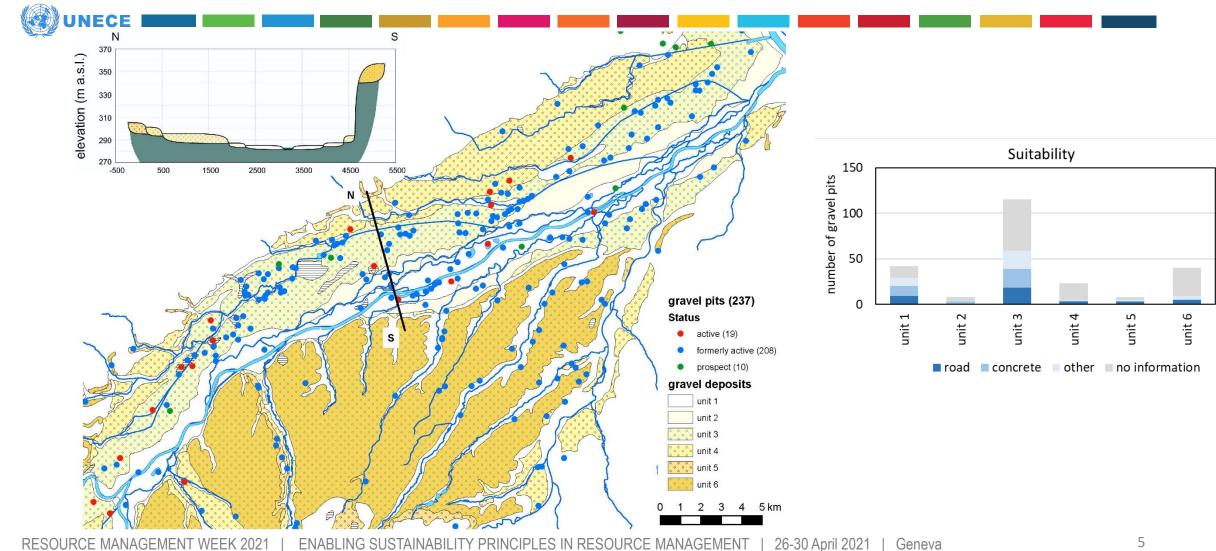




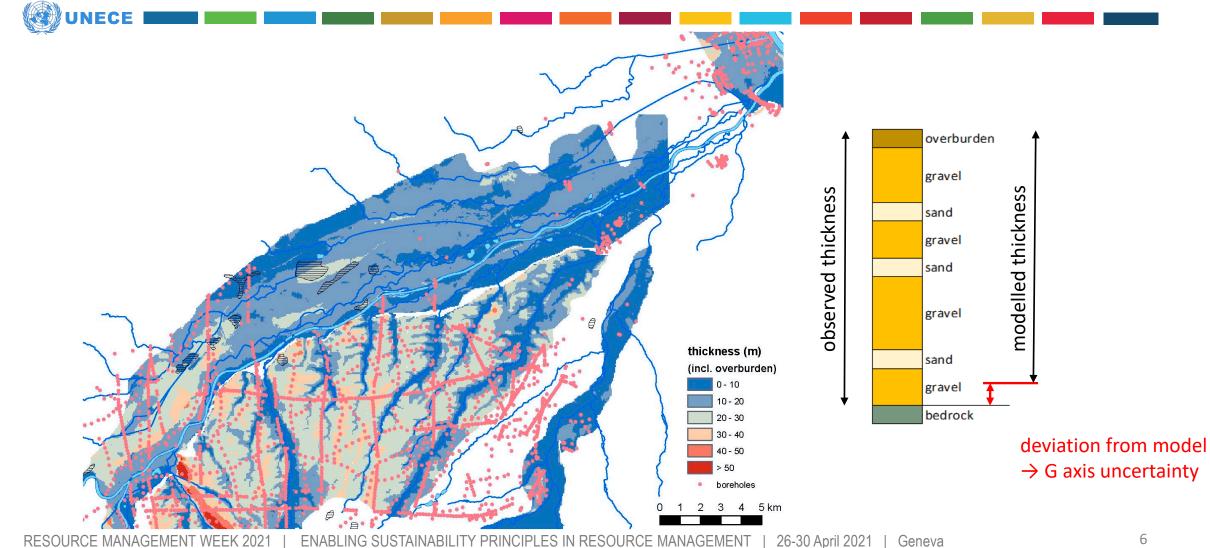
for large deposits:

thickness error: $\pm 0\% \pm 5\% = \pm 25\% = \pm 45\% = \pm 100\%$ G-axis code: G1 G2 G3 G4 geological confidence: 100% 90% = 50% = 10% = 0%

sand and gravel deposits and pits



thickness model



land use data

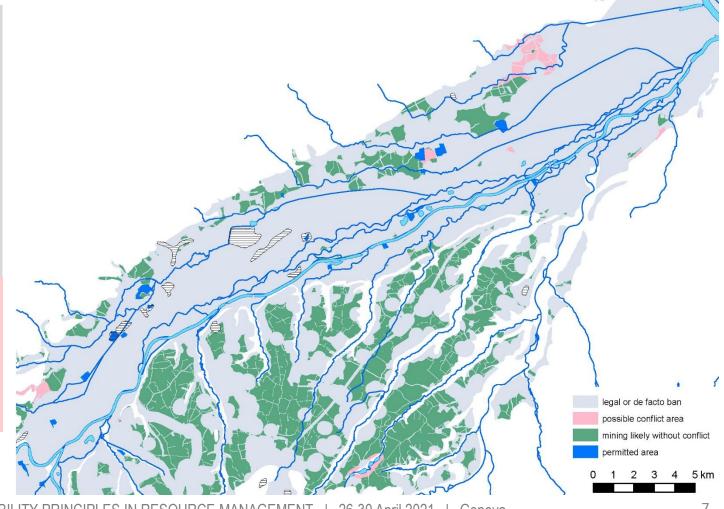


legal or *de facto* ban:

- building land
- recreational areas
- water protection zones
- national parks / protection zones
- important forests
- negative zones
- cultural / natural monuments
- sensitive game passageways

possible conflict areas:

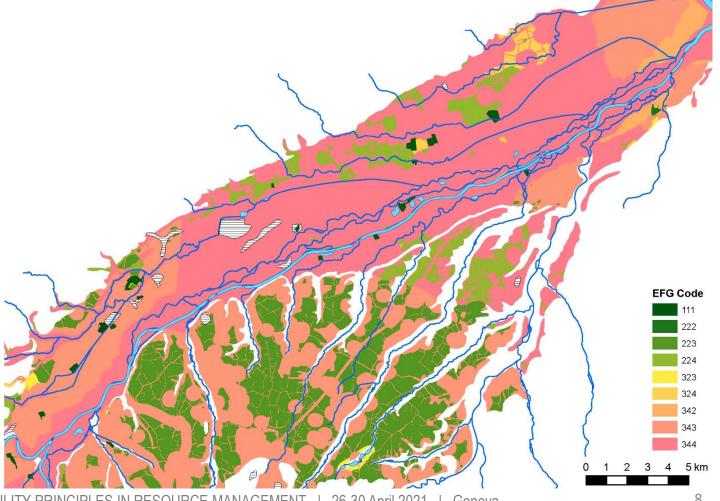
- ecological areas
- green zones
- Natura2000 areas
- game passageways



UNFC classification



| EFG Code | Volume (mio m³) | |
|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| | suitable for | suitable for road |
| | concrete | construction |
| 111 | 13 | 17 |
| 222 | 1 | 0 |
| 223 | 8 | 859 |
| 224 | 27 | 173 |
| 322 | 0 | 0 |
| 323 | 1 | 8 |
| 324 | 3 | 24 |
| 342 | 48 | 0 |
| 343 | 512 | 1477 |
| 344 | 1080 | 1237 |



Conclusions



- UNFC classification irrespective of past, current or future mining projects
- new set of criteria for deriving EFG codes at a regional scale
- new, GIS-based approach using
 - spatial planning data
 - geological maps
 - borehole logs (& thickness models)
 - mining data
- only suitable for sand and gravel deposits
- results compliant with current UNFC definitions of E-, F- and G-axis categories



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