



Maps of water balance components for Austria

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A spatially distributed water balance model was applied to produce maps of water balance components for the whole of Austria. The methodology for the water balance modelling was developed within the project “Water balance of the Danube River basin” which was executed in the framework of the UNESCO IHP programme. The output of the water balance model was aggregated to long-term mean annual values of the period 1961 to 1990. As a result of the methodology the water balance components fulfil the water balance equation for any selected sub-area. For display purposes the high resolution (1x1 km grid) output of the water balance model was aggregated to sub-basins with a mean size of 75 km². Long-term mean annual maps of precipitation, runoff-depth and actual evapotranspiration were prepared in the scale of 1:1 Mio. Maps of derived variables (climatic water balance, runoff coefficient, coefficient of variation of the annual runoff depth) were prepared in the scale 1:2 Mio. The maps display the high variability of the water balance components within Austria from the high mountainous regions to the low-land regions in the eastern part of the country. They are a valuable source of information for people working in the field of hydrology, water management, environmental resources management, etc. The maps are published in the Hydrological Atlas of Austria.