

Unlocking MG for sustainable development

4.2 Resource assessment

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1. SESSION OBJECTIVES

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- i) Present list of tools that can be used for the assessment of different RE resources
- ii) Discuss the need for onsite resource measurement and assessment for different RE sources

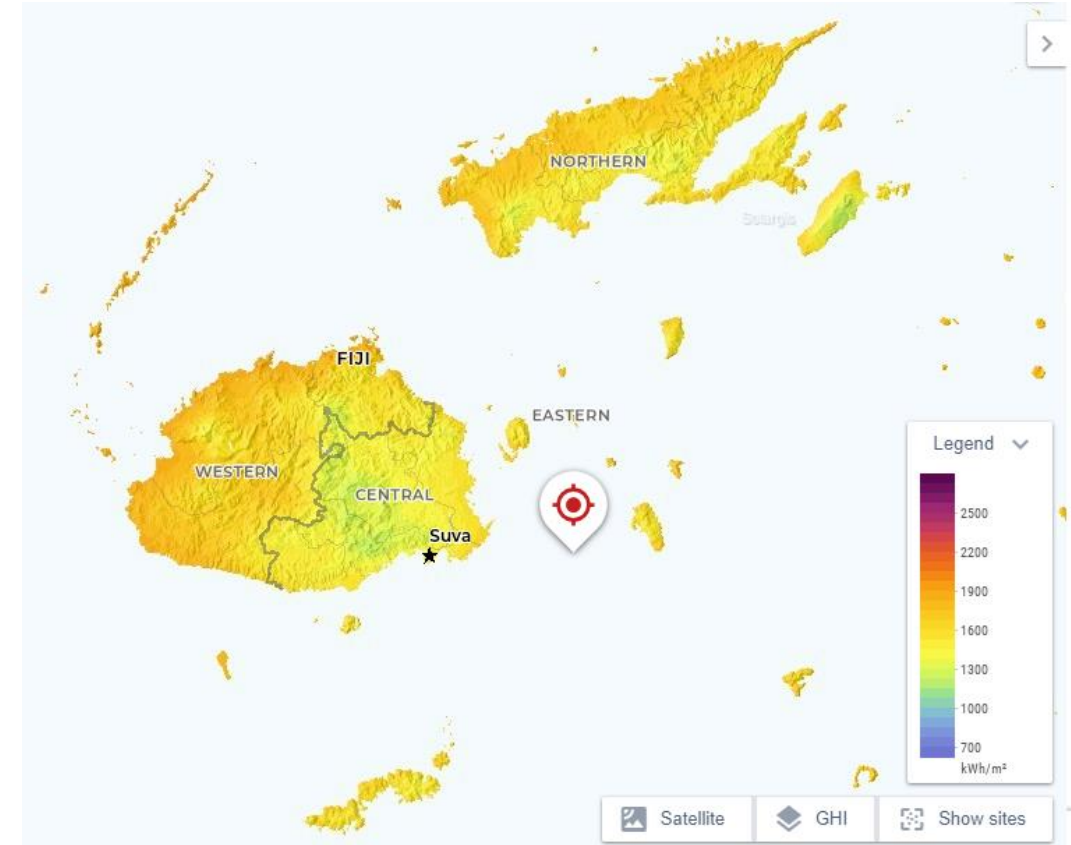
2. ENERGY RESOURCE ASSESSMENT

ENERGY RESOURCE ASSESSMENT

What are the most relevant aspects of energy resource assessment?

- Provides information on daily and annual renewable energy resources available per location.
- Information can focus more generally on a country/region or can look more closely into a specific location within a country/region. Some tools have very low resolution
- Some tools offer the option of making comparisons between different renewable resources.
- Most tools are online based and represent data in the form of interactive maps.

The list of tools presented here is not comprehensive. A wide variety of tools exist in the market, as well as individual GIS databases (ESRI, NASA, ESA) for specific data.



Example map from Global Solar Atlas

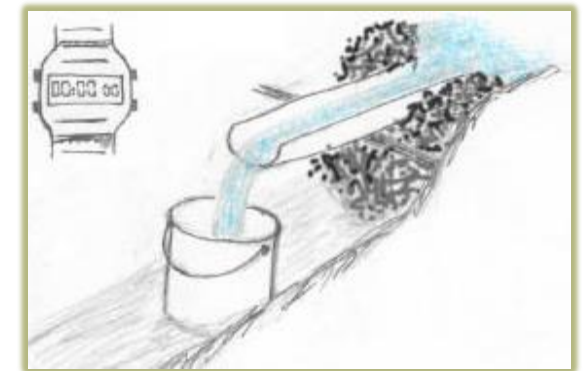
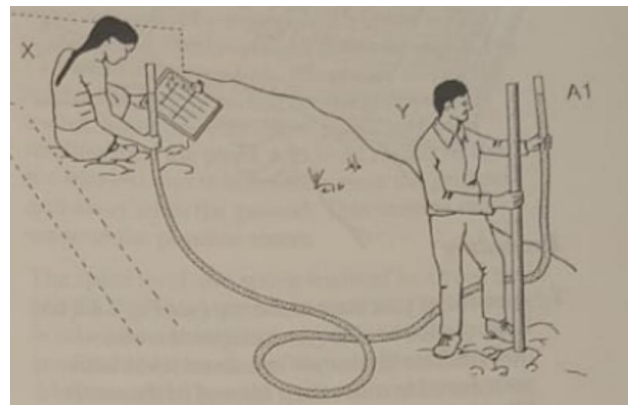
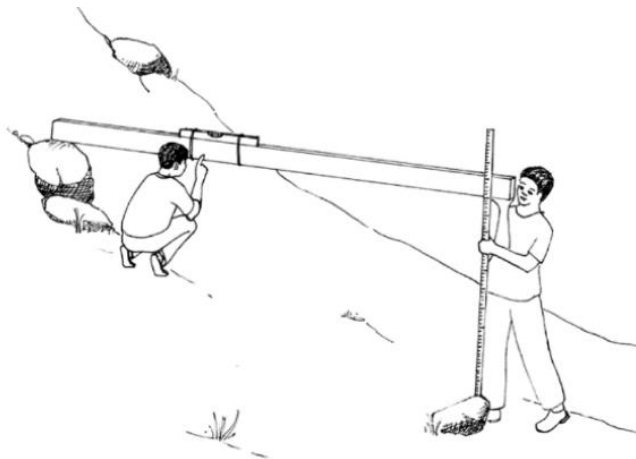
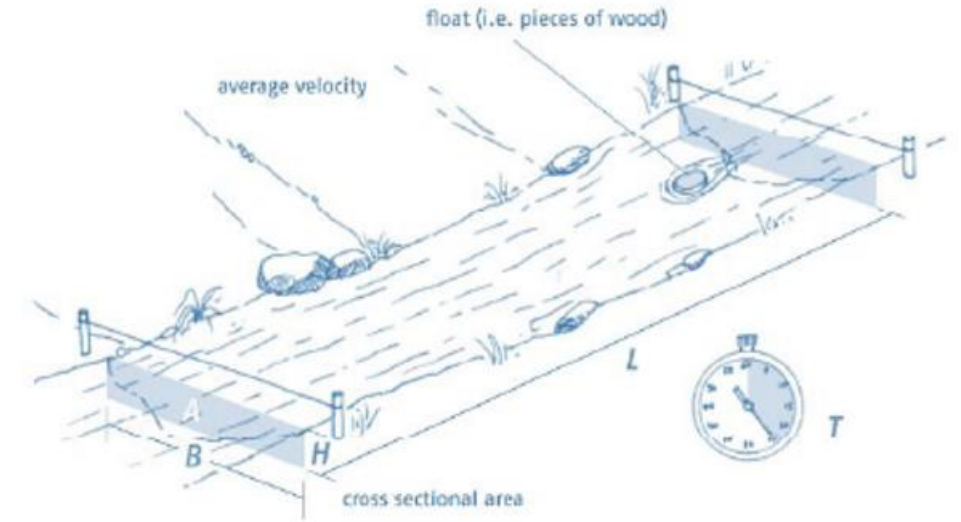
ENERGY RESOURCE ASSESSMENT

| Tool | Resource | Description |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| PVGIS, JRC EU | Solar | Provides information about solar radiation and photovoltaic system performance for any location in Europe and Africa. |
| Meteonorm, Meteotest AG | Solar | Historical time series and sophisticated calculation tools for irradiation and main meteorological parameters. |
| SWERA, NREL | Solar, wind | Resource data sets and analysis tools from various organisations (data not updated since 2011). |
| Global Solar Atlas, WB | Solar | Online maps showing various global aspects of solar energy, e.g. irradiation, power output, etc. |
| Global Wind Atlas, WB | Wind | Online map of global wind resources. Wind resource data accounting for local effects. |
| POWER, NASA | Solar, wind | Over 200 satellite-derived meteorology and solar energy Analysis Ready Data (updated nightly). |
| RE Explorer, USAID/NREL | Biomass, geothermal, hydro, solar, wave, wind | Global renewable energy data and analytical tools to developers, policymakers, and decision makers. |
| Global Atlas for RE, IRENA | Biomass, geothermal, hydro, solar, wave, wind | Web platform that allows to find maps of renewable energy resources for locations across the world. |

ENERGY RESOURCE ASSESSMENT

On-site resource assessment/measurement

- Solar: Done for utility scale, commercial project – Online resources are normally very reliable. Focus on shading impact for mini-grids.
- Wind: Very site specific and requires long-term (multi year) measurements . Wind normally not viable for mini-grids.
- Hydro: Required for any potential development (either big or small):
 - Head: Difference between potential intake and generation site – Measured with GPS for site with long distances or with a water level for sites where distances and head is small.
 - Water Flow: Needs to be measured for more than one year. Springs (bucket method), River (float method, current meter)



3. ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- Global solar atlas: <https://globalsolaratlas.info/map>
- Meteonorm: <https://meteonorm.com/en/>
- Global wind atlas: <https://globalwindatlas.info/>
- SWERA: [https://openei.org/wiki/Solar and Wind Energy Resource Assessment \(SWERA\)](https://openei.org/wiki/Solar_and_Wind_Energy_Resource_Assessment_(SWERA))
- The POWER Project: <https://power.larc.nasa.gov/>
- RE Explorer: <https://www.re-explorer.org/>
- IRENA Global Atlas: <https://www.irena.org/Energy-Transition/Project-Facilitation/Renewable-potential-assessment/Global-Atlas>
- Solargis: <https://solargis.com/>

Vinaka!

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