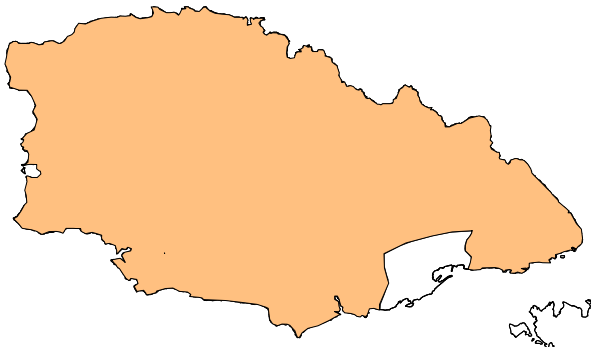
MALTA RESOURCES AUTHORITY

Groundwater Body Code
MT013
Groundwater Body Name
Gozo Mean Sea Level Groundwater Body
Reference Year
2004



General Characteristics

Location

The Lower Coralline Limestone Aquifer extends over the whole Island of Gozo, with the exception of a relatively small area in the south-eastern part of the island, located around the harbour of Mgarr; where due to faulting the impermeable Blue Clay formation occurs at sea-level. The aquifer is in free contact with sea-water.
The surface catchment area is mostly overlain either by outcrops of the Upper Coralline Limestone and the underlying Blue Clay formation or the upper member of the Globigerina Limestone formation.

Area	65.8km^2
Main Aquifer	Lower Coralline Limestone
Main Aquifer Type	Fractured Carbonate Media
Groundwater Horizon	1 but underlies perched aquifers over 17% of its area.
Maximum Length	14.5km
Maximum Width	7km
Mathematical centre of groundwater body	433400, 3989600

Hydro-geological characteristics

Stratigraphy	Tertiary—Oligocene
Mean Annual Precipitation	450mm
Mean Groundwater Body Thickness	66m
Main Recharge Source	Precipitation
Mean Annual Recharge	10hm^3

Pressures

Main Land-Use Features (Corinne Landcover 2000)	
Discontinuous urban fabric	11%
Area overlain by perched aquifer blocks	17%
Transitional woodland	3%
Schlerophyllous vegetation	27%
Sparsely vegetated areas	1%
Agriculture including areas with significant natural vegetation	40%
Other Pressures	
Water Abstraction Purpose	Potable supply and Irrigation
Artificial Recharge	Mainly due to leakages from potable supple and sewerage network
Associated Aquatic Ecosystems	None