

# “Geothermal as an Alternative Source of Energy for Tanzania” – a new Project

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# Tanzania country background

**Population: 34.6M (2002)**

Pop. growth rate: 2.9%/year

Life expectancy: 50yrs,

GDP per capita \$286

75% of population - rural

80% of rural population live under  
poverty line

Percapita energy consumption:

0.7 ToE (tonne of oil equivalent)



# Electricity

Generating capacity (2005): **1018 MW**  
72.3% owned & operated by TANESCO

Hydro	561 MW
Natural gas	182 MW
Diesel IPP	100 MW
Isolated 10 towns (decentralized)	55.5 MW
Other IPPs	41.5 MW
Imported (Zambia & Uganda)	13 MW

Consumption: 84 kWh/capita  
Access to electricity: **11.5 %** of population  
Rural population access to electricity: **2 %**

*Cement factory in Songwe basin*


# Challenges in electricity supply

- National power system is mostly relying on hydropower.
- A long period of drought between 2003 and 2006 and changing rainfall pattern are adversely affecting hydropower plants, they are no longer reliable as base-load.



# Stages of geothermal development

**Geothermal** not included in “National Power Sector Master Plan” as there is still no planning data; inadequate exploration

- ✓ Project definition and reconnaissance study
- Detailed exploration 
- Exploratory drilling & delineation
- Resource data analysis & assessment of development potential
- Field development
- Steam production & resource management
- Power plant construction

# **GEO THERM** Project in Tanzania

Objective: Tanzanian Institutions move further on evaluating the countries geothermal potential

Period: June 2006 – end of 2007



*Mbeya with Ngozi volcano in background*

# Main project components:

- Training of Tanzanian experts in acquiring, analysing and interpreting exploration data
- Recommend potential locations for a geothermal exploration borehole in Songwe area on the basis of modern geothermal exploration methods
- Enabling MEM and GST to continue with geothermal exploration works
- Dissemination of information about possibilities of geothermal energy use in Tanzania among decision makers
- Search for funding for shallow drilling in Songwe

*Travertine deposits in Songwe area*

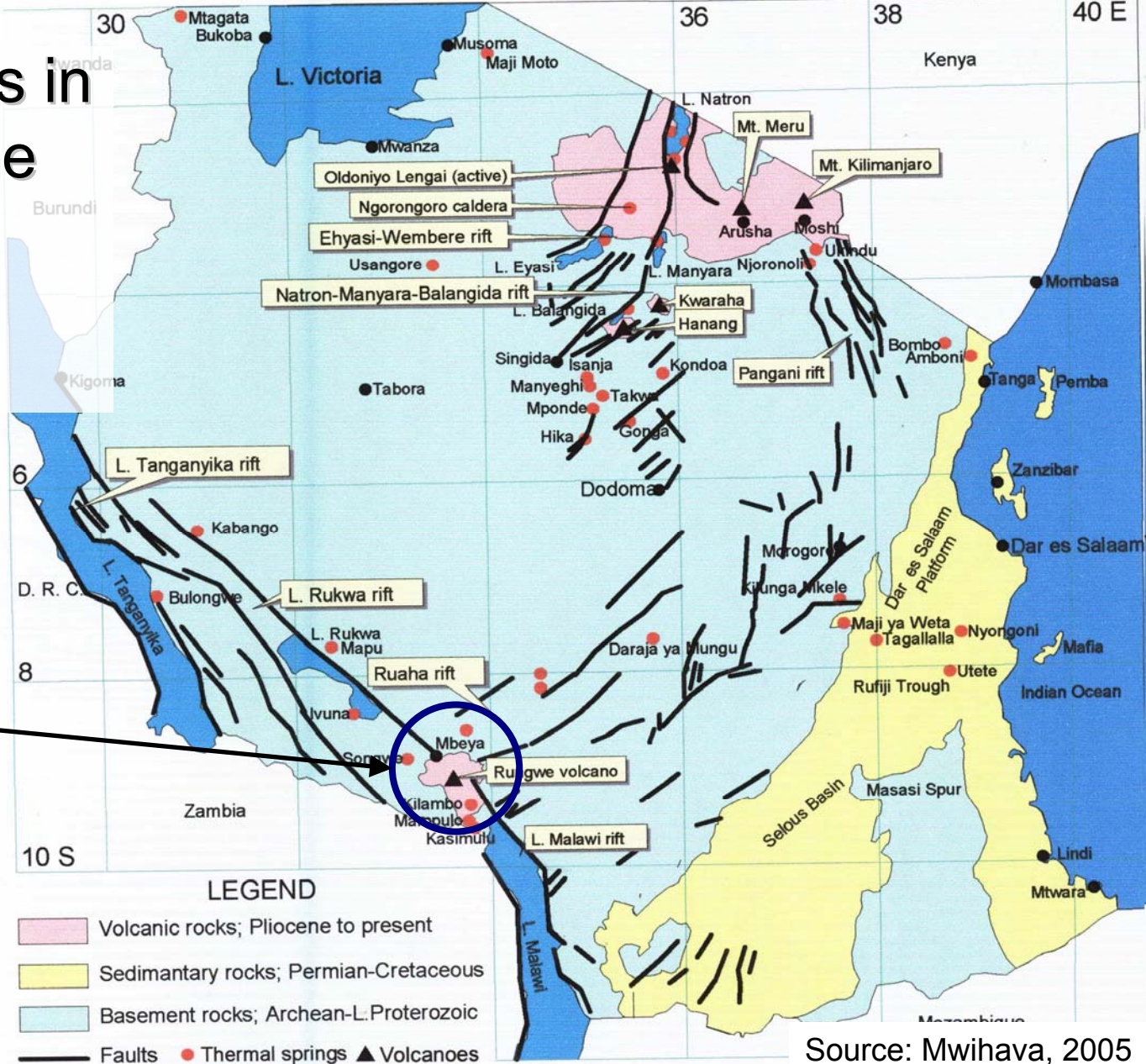
# Main project activities in 2006:

- Training of Jacob Mayalla from MEM at UNU-GTP (geological exploration) in Iceland in 2006
- Appraisal mission, sampling of possible project sites and selection of one site as project area (June 2006)
- Test and upgrade of geophysical equipment of GST (August 2006)
- First short field survey (November 2006)





# Geothermal sites in Tanzania and the selected GEOTHERM project region



Source: Mwhava, 2005

Project region Mbeya (Rungwe volcanic complex)

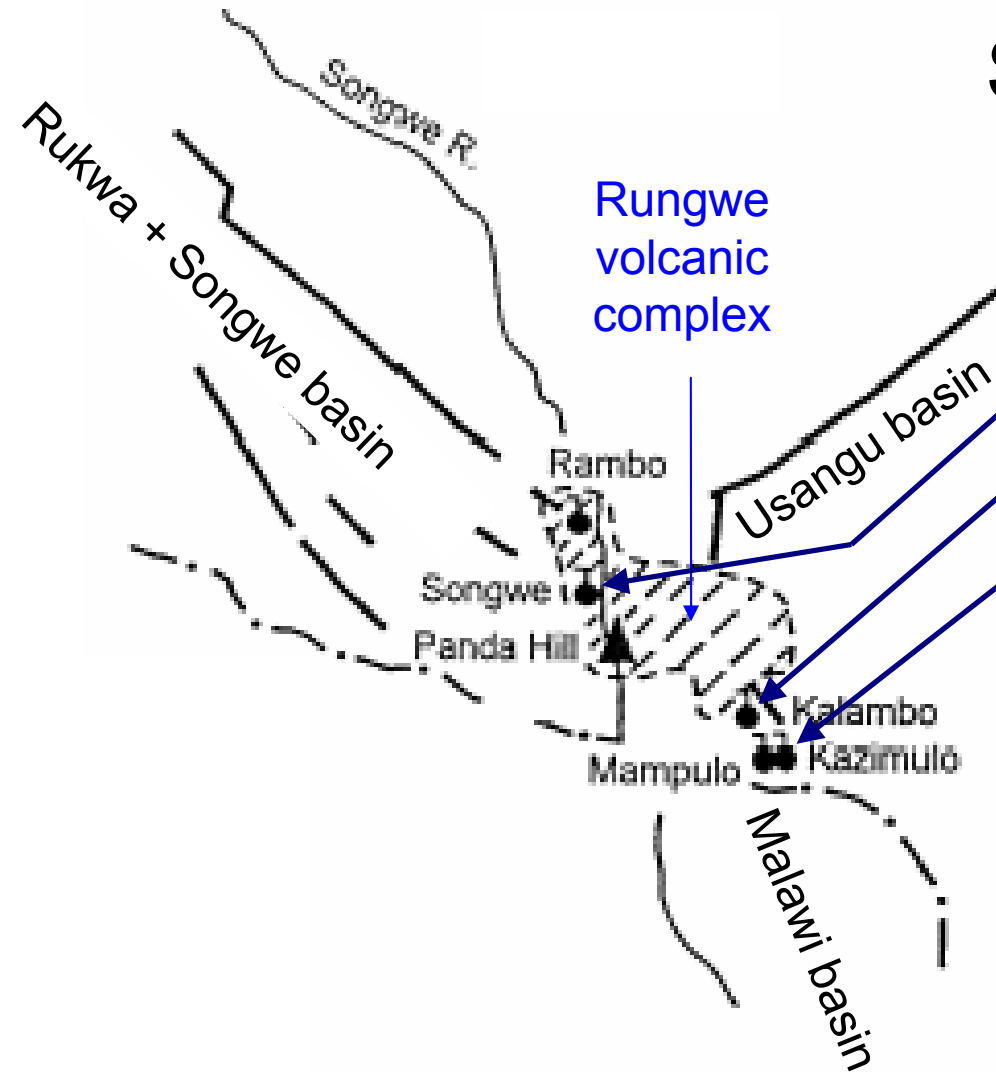
# Selection of project site

Appraised and sampled hot springs in June 2006:

Songwe

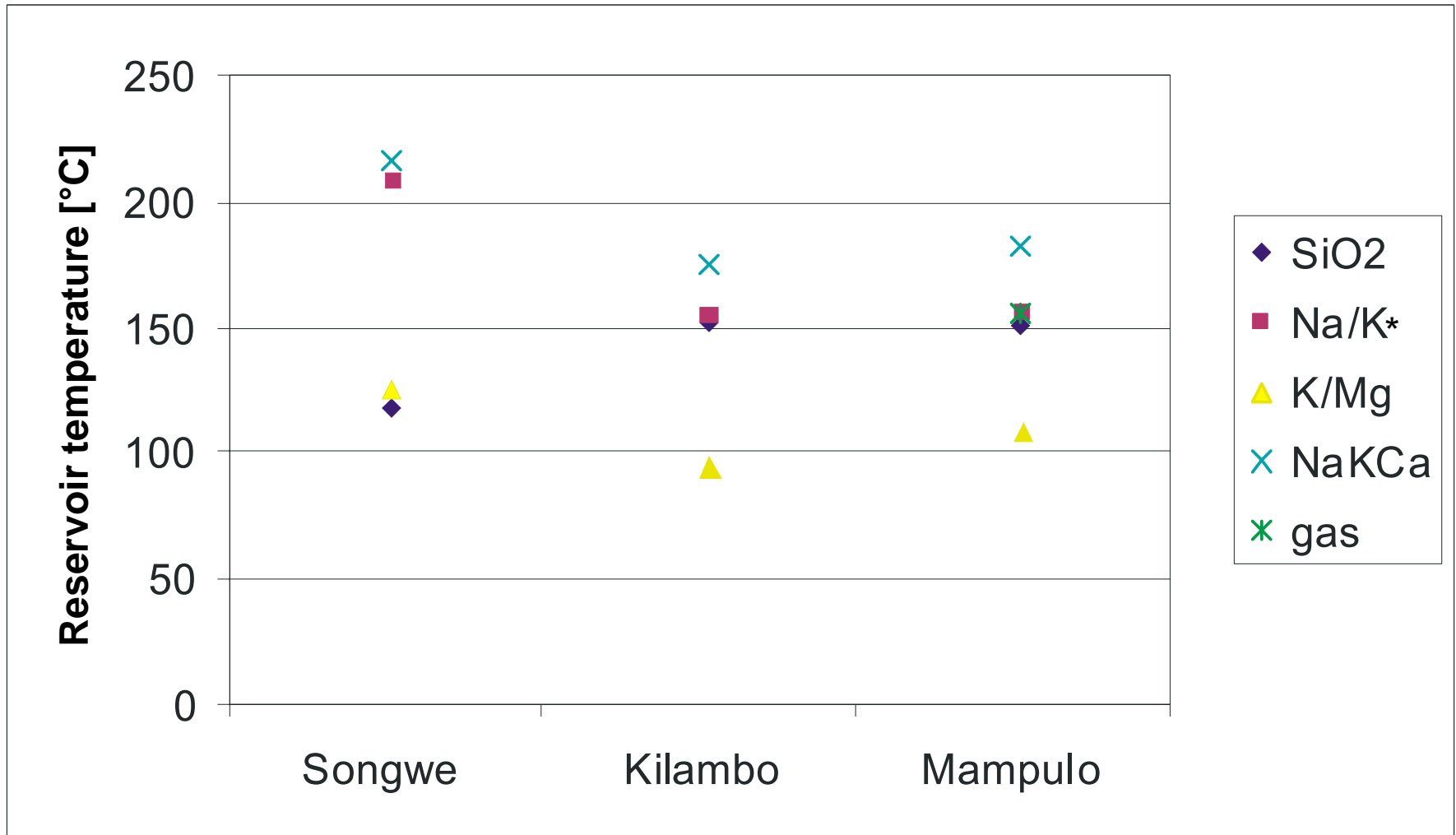
Kilambo/Makwehe

Mampulo



*Project team in front of Lake Nyasa*

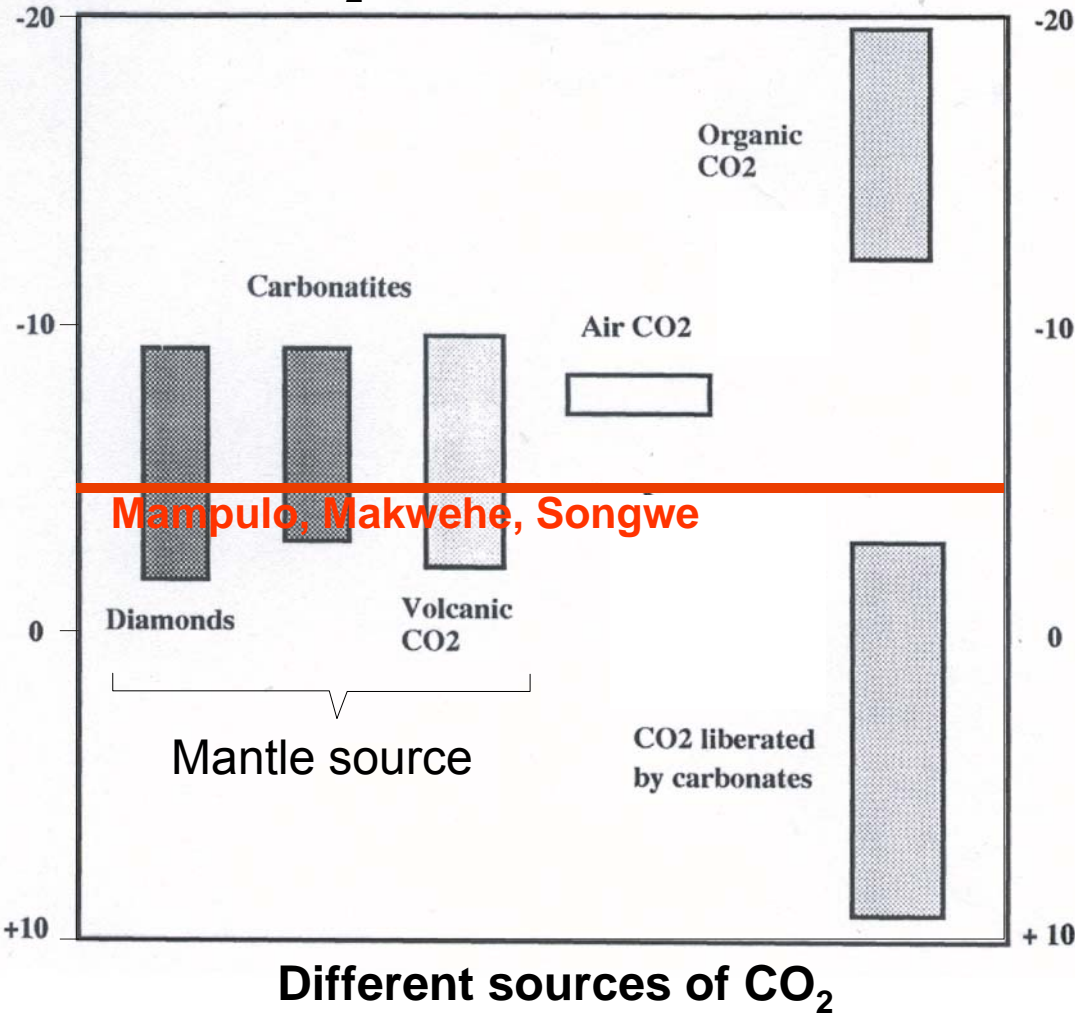
# Sampling results of June 2006: geothermometry



\* improved Na/K (Can 2000)

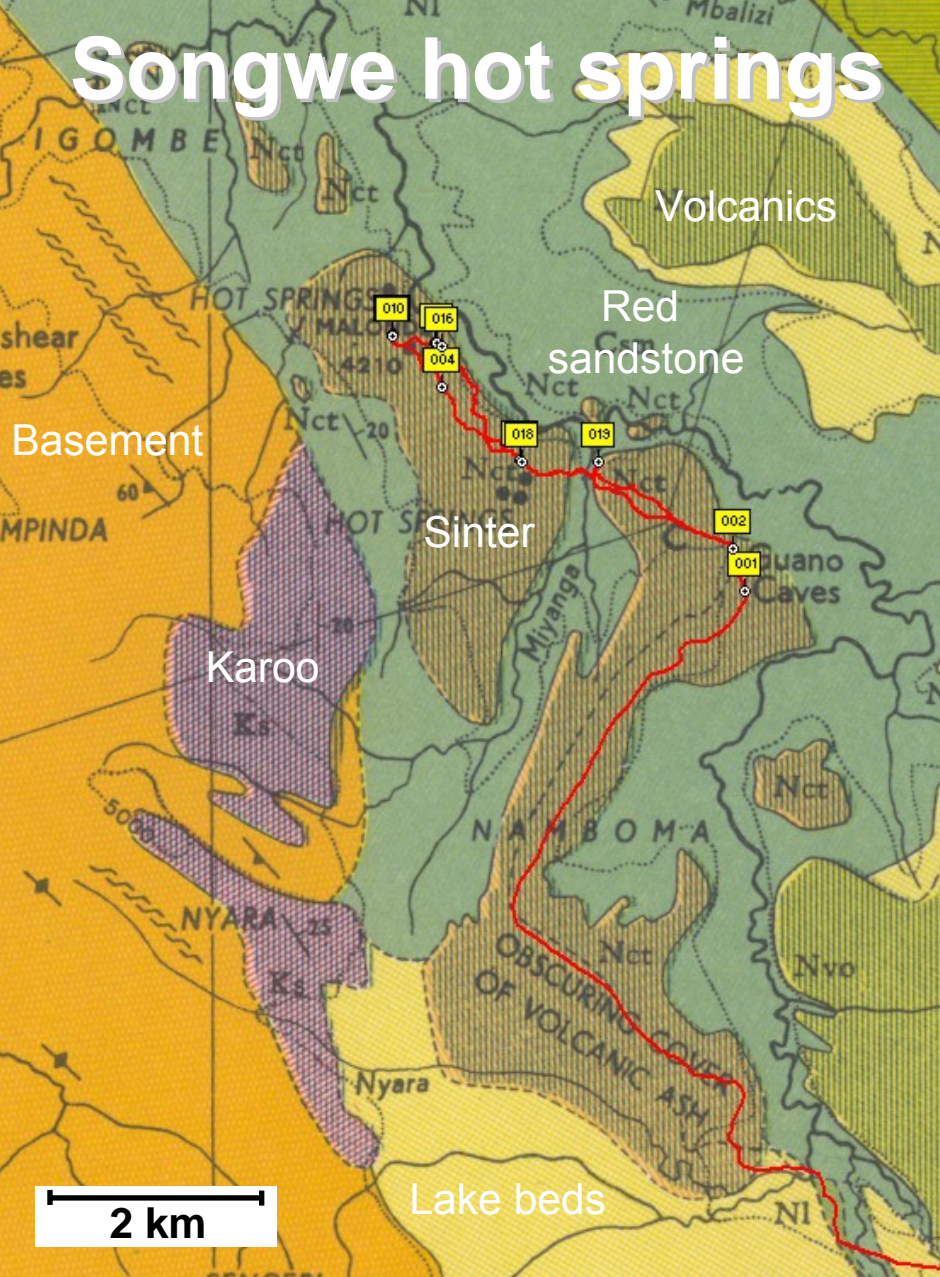
# Sampling results of June 2006: Carbon isotopic composition of CO<sub>2</sub>

$\delta^{13}\text{C}$  (PDB) CO<sub>2</sub>



→ The geothermal systems of all sampled hot springs are driven by a magmatic heat source

# Songwe hot springs



## Why Songwe?

logistical advantages

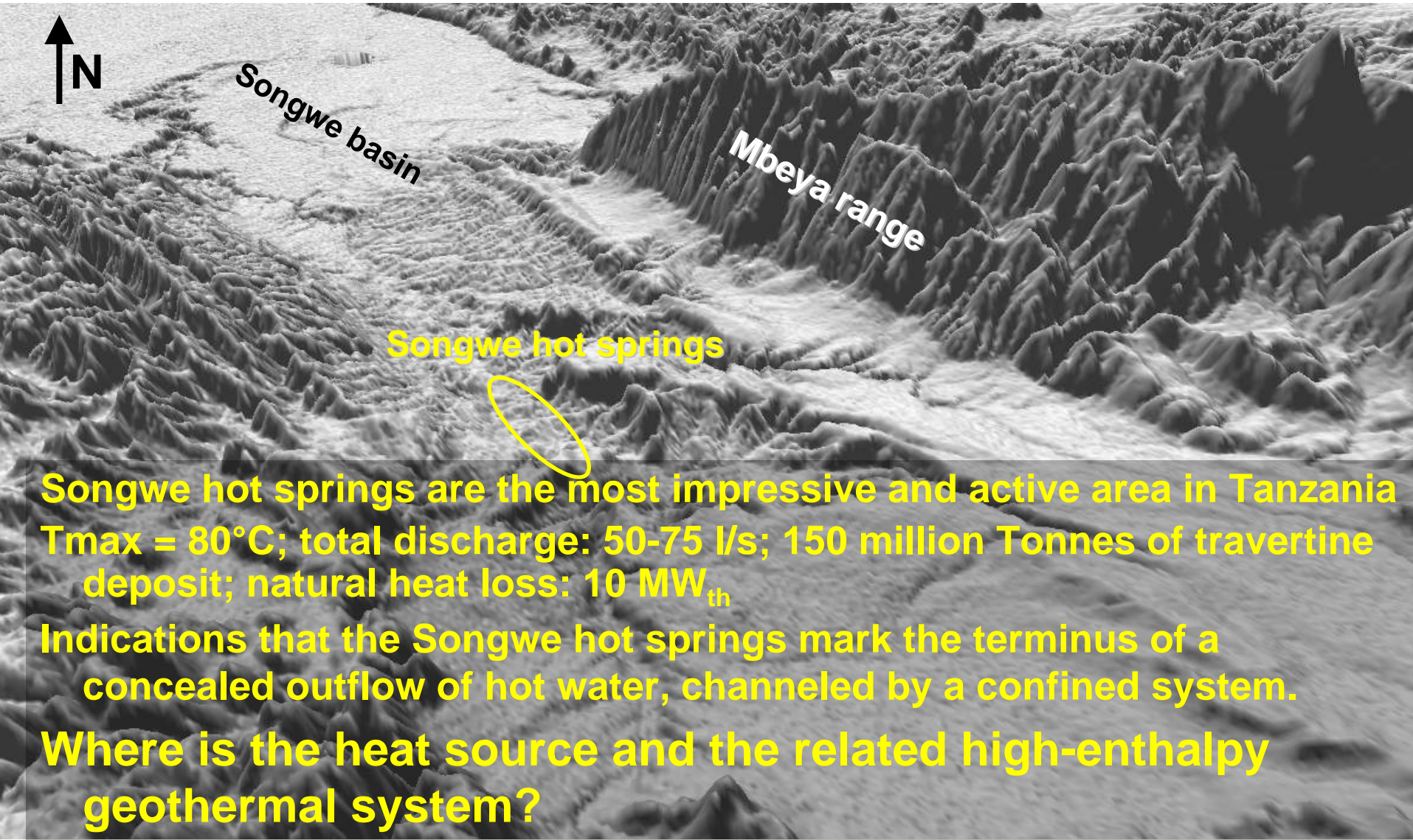
good general conditions for training

partly good terrain  
accessibility to apply a broad spectrum of geoscientific methods

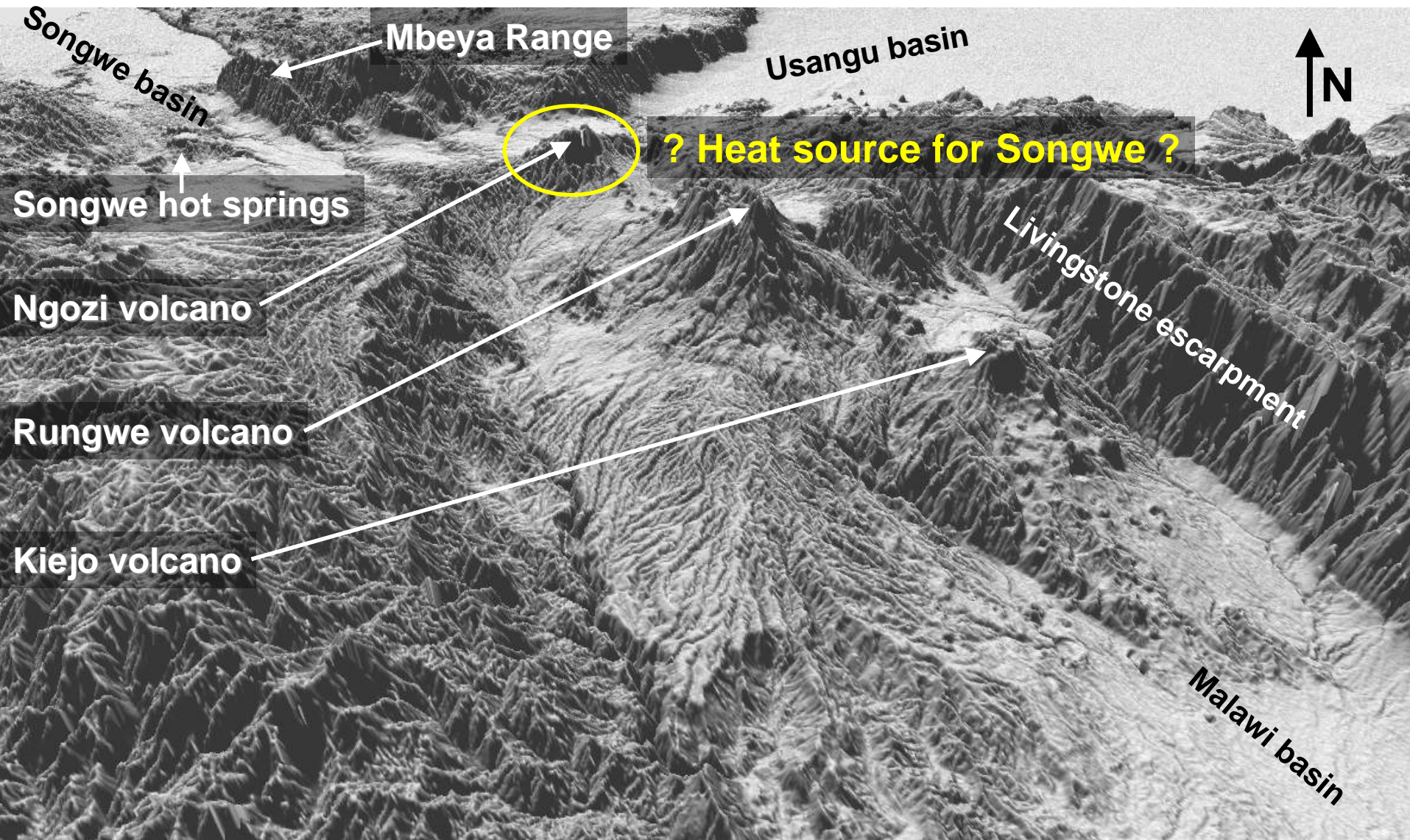
comparably high natural release of thermal energy leads to the conclusion that a significant resource exists

recommended in the “Tanzanian Rural Electrification Study” (2005)

# Songwe geothermal site



# View over triple junction & Rungwe volcanic complex



# First short field survey in November 2006

Duration: 31.10. – 14.11.2006

Applied methods:

- Geological investigations
- Sampling of rocks, fluids and gases
- Transient electromagnetic soundings (TEM)
- Schlumberger soundings (VES)

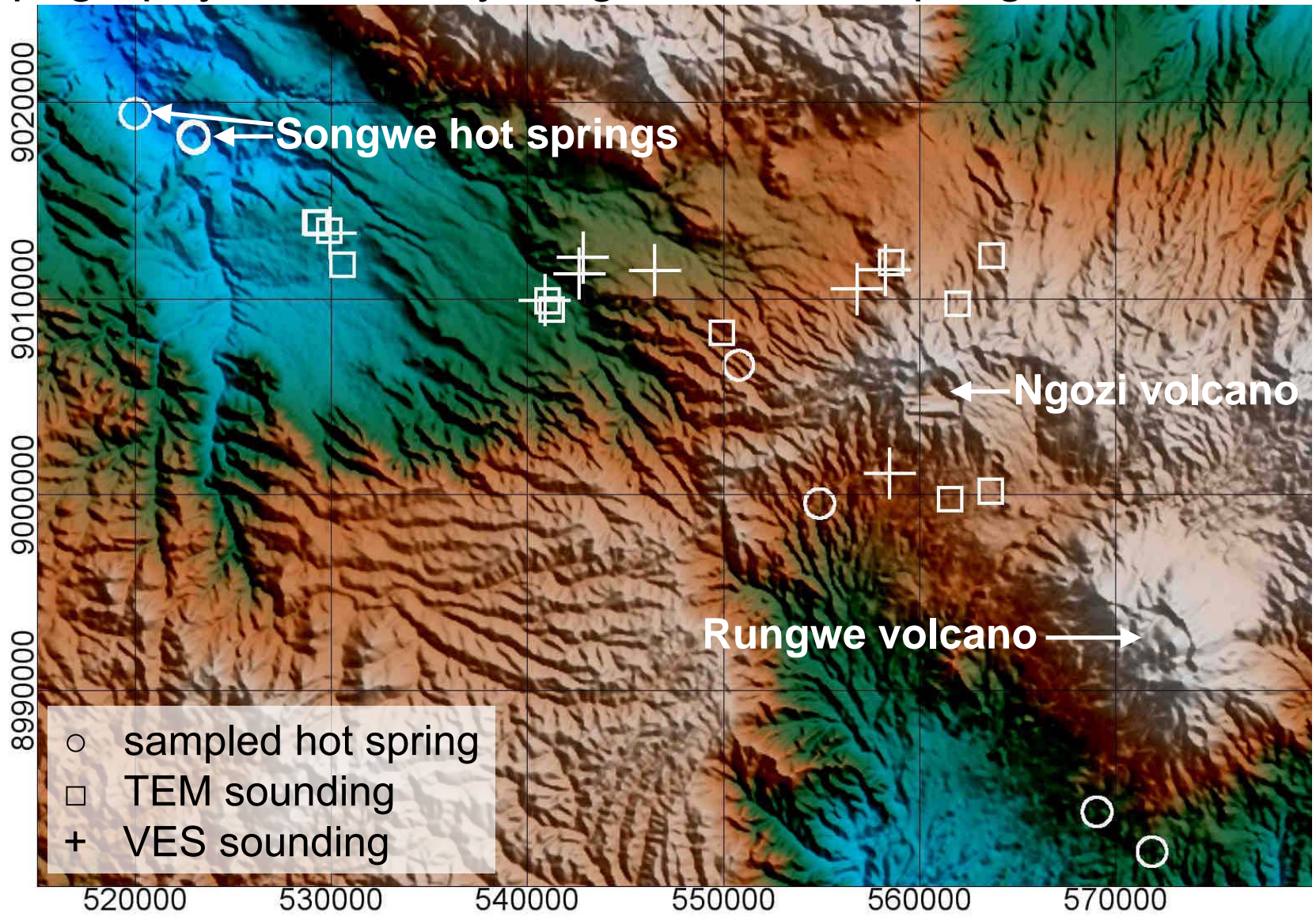


*Lake Ngozi (caldera)*

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# Topography of the Mbeya region with hot springs, TEM & VES



# Outlook

## Planned project activities:

- Training in data processing and interpretation of 1 or 2 scientists of GST at BGR in Hannover, Germany
- Planning of further field activities based on the results
  - Field survey in middle of 2007 (May?)
- Presentation and distribution of project results and possibilities of geothermal energy use (conference, workshop, exhibition, paper)
- Training additionally of one scientist of GST at UNU-GTP in Iceland in 2007 or 2008



