

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910346940203321
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Titolo	Suitability of local materials to purify Akaki Sub-Basin water
Pubbl/distr/stampa	KIT Scientific Publishing, 2007
ISBN	1000006938
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (XXI, 225 p. p.)
Collana	Karlsruher mineralogische und geochemische Hefte
Soggetti	Physics
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Sommario/riassunto	Dissolved and suspended particulate matter (SPM) bound Cu, Zn, Ni, As, Pb, Mn, and Fe are common pollutants in surface and groundwater of the Akaki Sub-Basin. This work (1) presents results of water quality analysis and (2) evaluates an innovative approach for removing heavy metals from polluted water using natural materials. Removal capacities of the filter media for Cu, Zn, Ni, and Pb reach 90%. The main removal mechanisms involved are weak sorption and surface precipitation.