WebGIS - A methodical Tool for the introduction of GIS in Schools and Universities

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Agenda

- Introduction
- WebGIS free GIS technology for Schools and Universities
- The project "WebGIS-Schule" (http://www.webgis-schule.de)
 - Examples from Schools
 - Examples from Universities
- Conclusions





Introduction

- Geographic information systems (GIS) have become an important part of daily life in Germany
- However, their significance in Schools and Universities remains weak

Therefore...

- GIS must be implemented in teacher education
- Teachers have to be prepared to apply GIS in schools
- The curriculum in the Universities must be adapted
- Teachers who are already teaching in schools can learn about GIS and its applications in further trainings in Universities or other Institutes





Introduction

What are the biggest barriers to the introduction of GIS in schools?

- The costs of the software (and installation and administration)
- The costs of hardware
- The costs of data
- It takes a long time to learn GIS

What we have to do...

- Learning materials need to be prepared
- Easy to use tools for the introduction of GIS are needed





WebGIS - free GIS technology for Schools and Universities

- Easiest way to introduce GIS in schools is via the Internet (WebGIS)
- It provides a simple, straightforward and very cost-effective introduction:
 - the use of this GIS technology is free
 - it can be used all over the world
 - no additional (GIS-)software has to be installed
 - easy to learn (reduced functions)



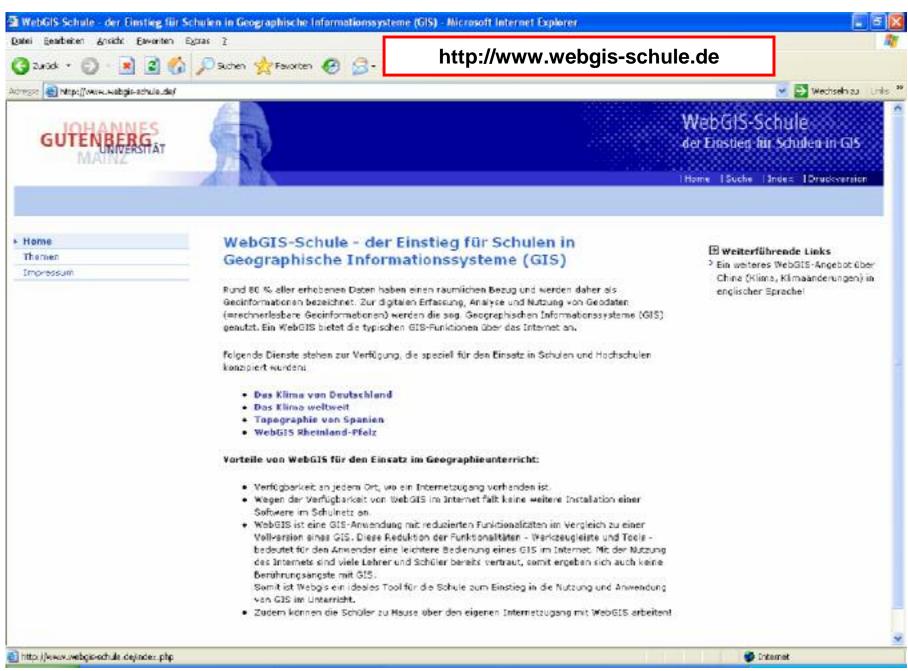


www.webgis-schule.de

- WebGIS-Server (based on ArcIMS-technology) was developed in cooperation with the Data Processing Center of the University
- WebGIS-Services were developed in the Department of Geography at Mainz University
- WebGIS-Schule (http://www.webgis-schule.de) provides different services
 - The Climate of Germany (german)
 - The Climate worldwide (german, english)
 - WebGIS Rheinland-Pfalz (german)
 - WebGIS Spain (german, spanish)
 - WebGIS France (german, french)
 - WebGIS-China (english) (http://www.webgis-china.de)
- WebGIS can be used as a methodical tool for the introduction of GIS in Schools and Universities

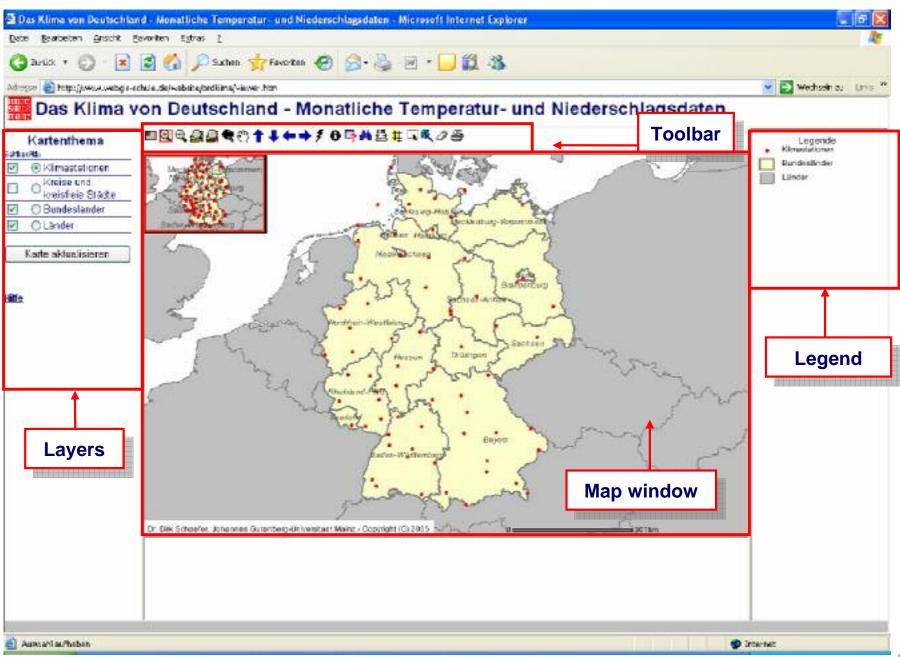






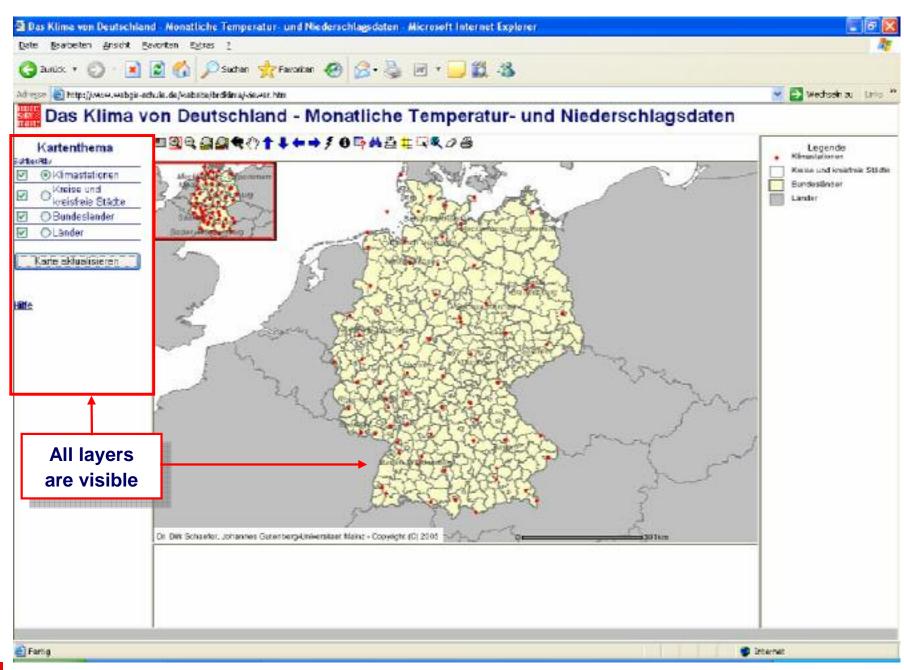






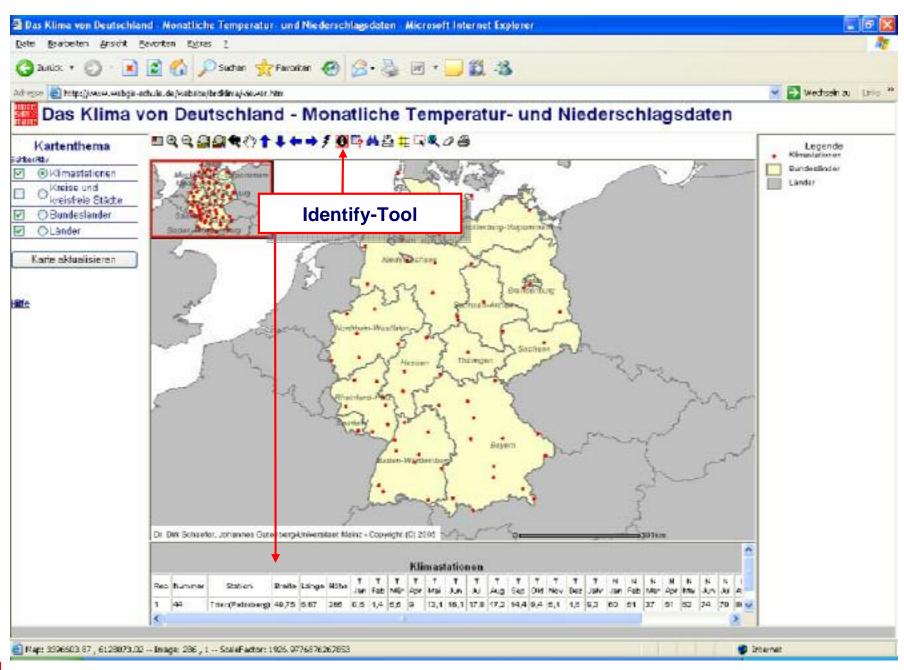






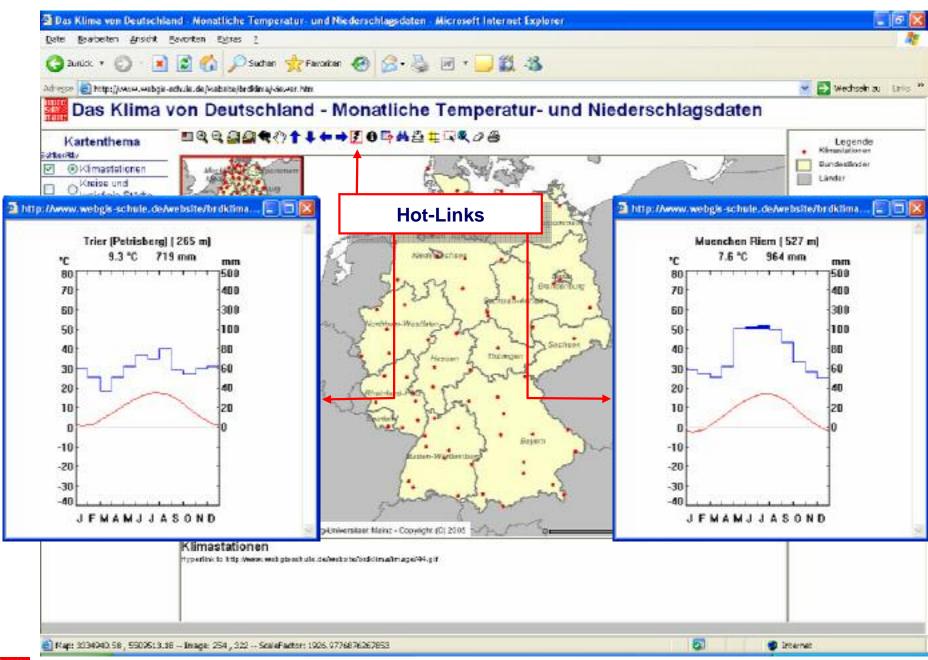






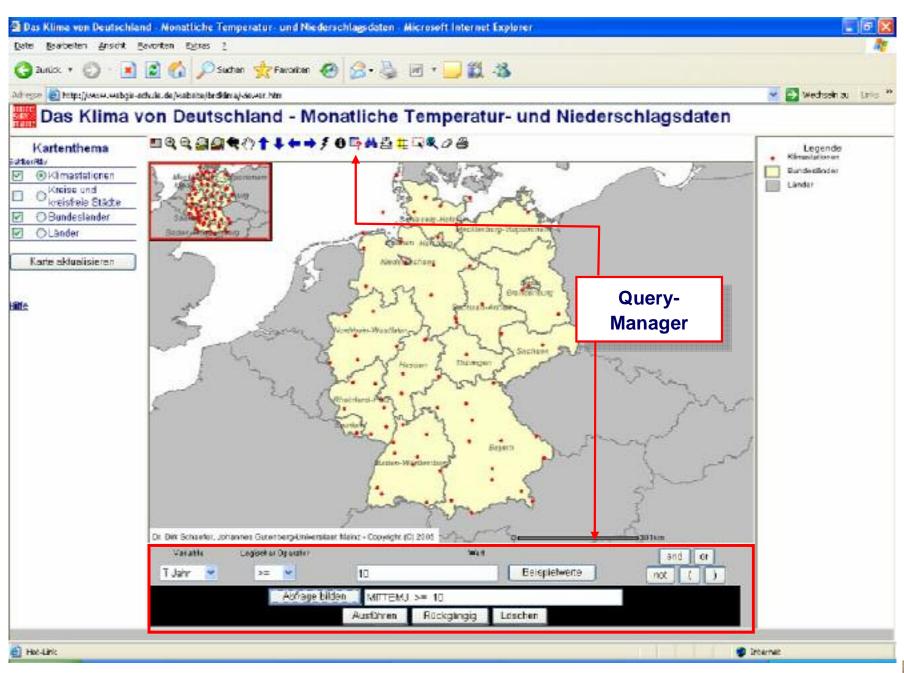






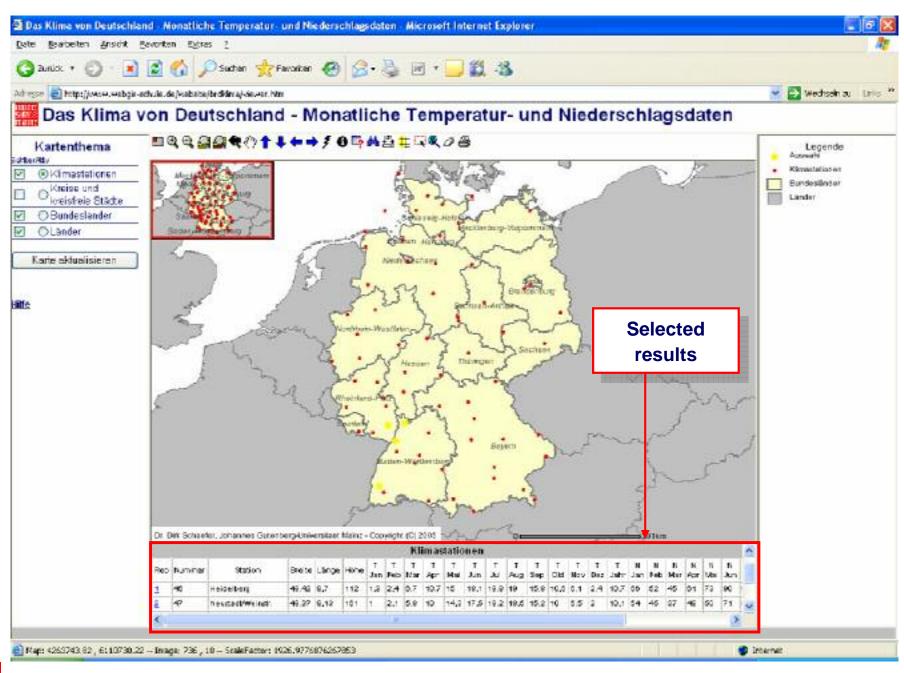






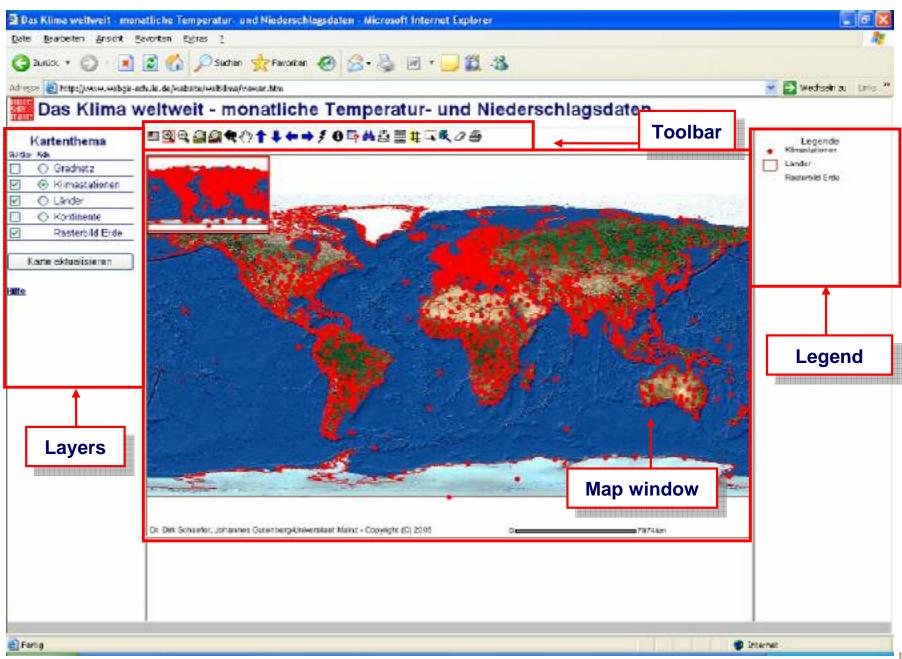






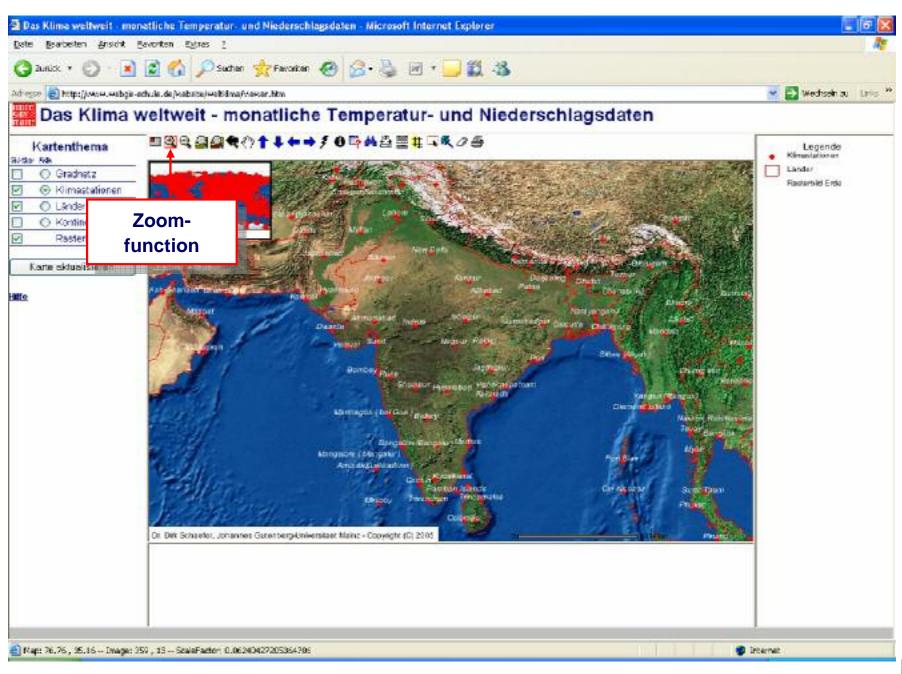






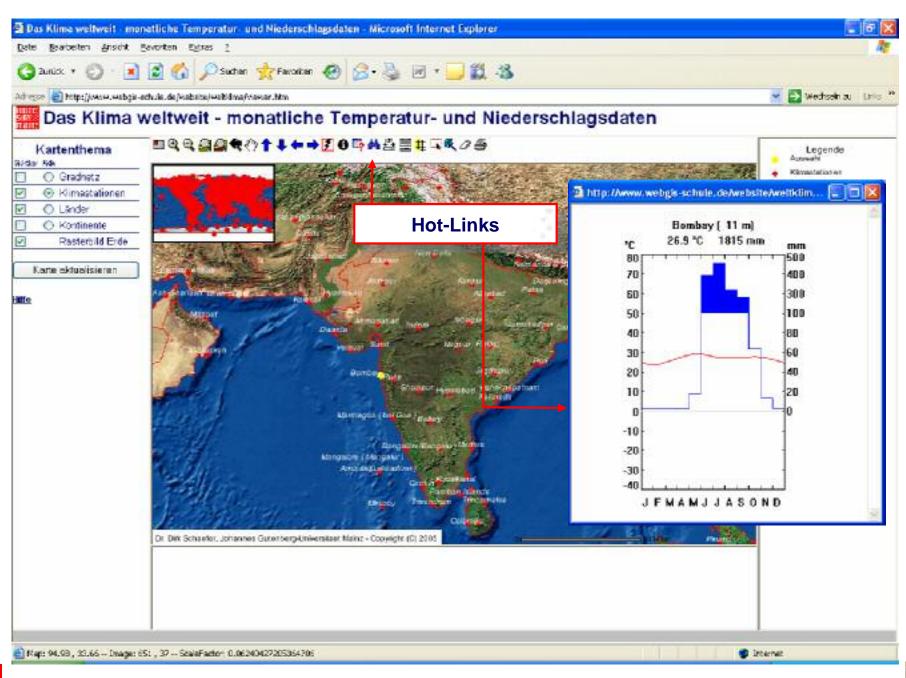






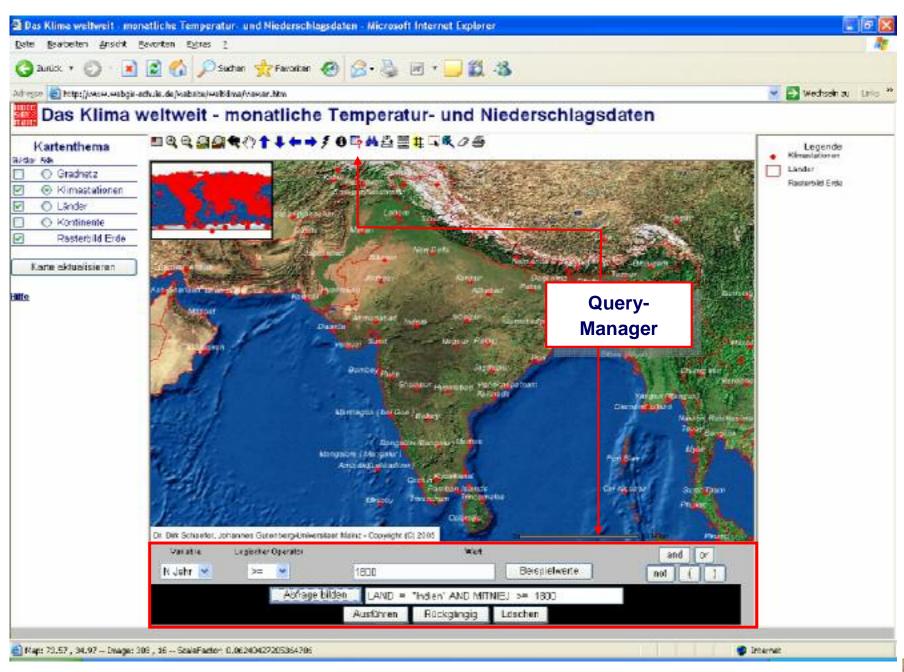






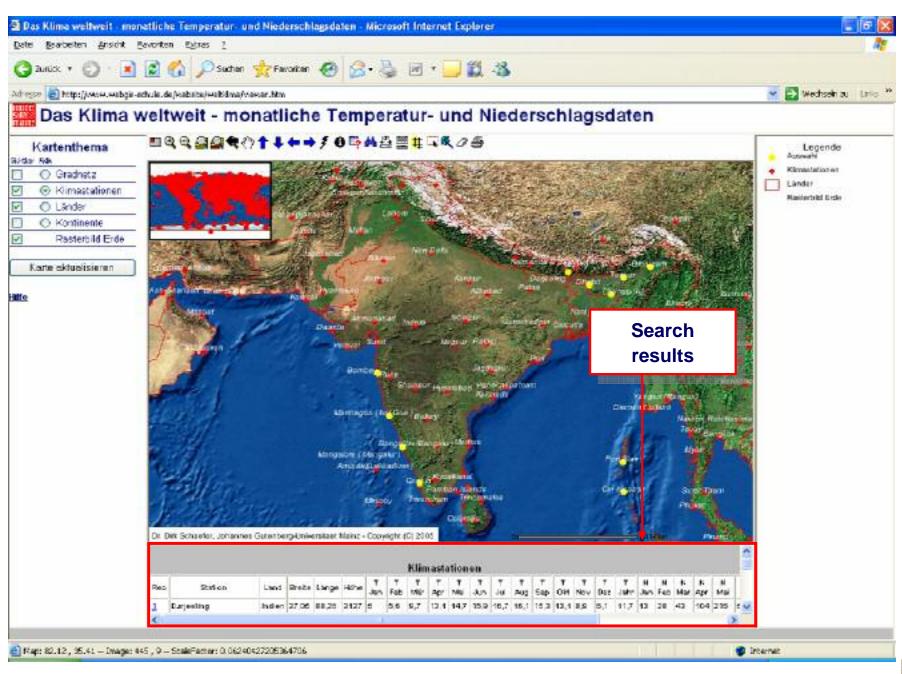
















Conclusions

- In Germany (almost) every school has access to internet
- Every school can use the Map-Services provided by WebGIS for free
- WebGIS-Schule (http://www.webgis-schule.de) provides various WebGIS-Services
- They can be used for a didactically appropriate introduction of GIS in Schools and Universities
- A "real" GIS provides more functions and provides for more advanced and experienced users the possibility to create, manage and analyse own projects
- The students learn about
 - the layertechnique
 - GIS-functions (Zoom, Identify, Measure, Hot-Links, Query Builder)
- WebGIS is a good approach and an easy way to introduce GIS in Schools and Universities





Thank you for your attention!



