

Project acronym**WHaTeR****Project title**

Water Harvesting Technologies Revisited

Start and end date

1/1/2011 – 31/12/2014

Funding programme

FP7

The overarching topics the project addresses:

- 2. Surface water
- 5. Water resources management
- 9. Adaptation to climate change
- 10. Water scarcity and drought
- 14. Water technologies

A short summary of the project:

The WHaTeR project aims to contribute to the development of appropriate water harvesting techniques (WHTs) that are sustainable under dynamic global and regional pressure, and strengthen rainfed agriculture, improve rural livelihood and increase food production and security in Sub-Saharan Africa. The project (running period: 2011-2014) will start with a situation analysis through revisits to water harvesting sites in 11 African countries studied previously by participating organisations. The next activities relate to detailed research and technology development activities on cross-cutting themes (environmental sustainability; technology development; livelihood improvement; uptake and upscaling; and global and regional impact) to be conducted, together with country-based activities in Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, South Africa and Tanzania.

In addition, WHaTeR pays much attention to stakeholder communication and out-reaching activities, leading to the production of guidelines for WHTs. The expected impacts of the project comprise technology support for farmers, development of stakeholder communication networks, innovative water harvesting systems, tools for impact assessment, upstream-downstream land-use, and policy support for integrated water management and adaptation to climate change to promote EU and African strategies on strengthening rainfed agriculture, food security and livelihoods.

The main objectives of the project:

To contribute to the development of water harvesting technologies that are sustainable under dynamic global and regional pressures of current trends and that strengthen rainfed agriculture, rural livelihoods and food production and security in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Link to EU Water Policy:

- 12. Other: related to the EU Strategy for Africa; Advancing African Agriculture

All factsheets are available at:

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Specification: One of the EC's major strategies for Africa is to address the struggle against poverty and hunger through agriculture and rural development: promoting agricultural growth and increasing productivity will lead to improved livelihood, increased food security and reduced conflicts over resource management for rural communities on marginal lands and elsewhere (EU Strategy for Africa 2005, 2nd European Forum on Sustainable Rural Development 2007, Advancing African Agriculture COM(2007)440).

The project is focused to these stakeholders:

1. Non-governmental organizations
2. Research sector
3. Policy sector
5. End users and General public

The main results the project already achieved:

The project has produced the following deliverables: an external website, proceedings of the kick-off workshop, a communication strategy plan, and is currently working on the revisit field studies the results of which will be published in an Earthscan book titled "Water Harvesting in Sub Saharan Africa: the state of the art" (editors: W Critchley and J Gowing - still in progress, to be published next year)

The main deliverables, available dissemination material and education material from the project:

The main deliverables include:

- Earthscan book on WHT status, thematic fact sheets on water harvesting technologies, articles in peer-reviewed journals, thematic synthesis reports for the main RTD packages (12 in total), a synthesis book (publisher not decided yet), videos (on CDs and on YouTube) on development on Water Harvesting Technologies and Stakeholder participation, methodology workshop report, 2 (one at beginning and one at end of project) x 4 multi-stakeholder workshops (2 in each of the 4 target countries Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, South Africa, Tanzania) , synthesis conference, Water Harvesting Technology guidelines, policy briefs
- Website
- Kick-off workshop report
- Communication strategy report

Many of the relevant reports and publications are still to be published. Only few have been completed including:

- Website
- Kick-off workshop report
- Communication strategy report

Other materials not completed or started yet:

- Video materials to be gathered during 2012-2013 (on CDs and on YouTube) on development on Water Harvesting Technologies and Stakeholder participation)
- Methodology workshop report (January 2012)

- Proceedings on 2 (one at beginning and one at end of project) x 4 multi-stakeholder workshops (2 in each of the 4 target countries Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, South Africa, Tanzania; January 2012 and December 2013)
- Thematic factsheets (December 2012)
- Articles in peer-reviewed journals (June 2013, December 2013)
- Thematic synthesis reports on Water Harvesting technologies (June 2014)
- Synthesis conference book (draft December 2014)
- Water Harvesting Technology guidelines (November 2014)
- Policy briefs (March-August 2014)

Dissemination activities and events planned within the project:

- Kick-off workshop in Burkina Faso, February 2011
- Methodology workshop in South Africa: November 2011
- 8 Multi-stakeholder workshops in Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Tanzania, South Africa (4 in January 2012 and 4 in December 2013)
- Synthesis workshop in Nairobi, Kenya, November 2014
- Production and distribution of policy briefs, March-August 2014
- Briefing meeting in Brussels, October-November 2014

Contacts

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Organisations in the consortium

Name of institution	Country	Type of institution	Role
Centre for International Cooperation, VU University Amsterdam	NL	University	Coordinator
Newcastle University	UK	University	RTD Partner
Stockholm Resilience Centre	SE	Research Institute	RTD Partner
University of Kwazulu Natal	ZA	University	RTD Partner
Sokoine University	TN	University	RTD Partner
Southern and Eastern Africa Rainwater Network – ICRAF (CGIAR)	KE	Non-Governmental Organization	RTD and Stakeholder – Communication partner
National Institute for Environment and Agricultural Research	BF	Research Institute	RTD Partner
Arba Minch University	ET	University	RTD Partner

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