Rainwater belongs to everyone.
Sufficient and safe water should be available to everyone. How do we make that happen?

With rainwater harvesting systems, developed, spread and implemented by RAIN since its foundation in 2003, together with many partners.

The key idea is simple. There is hardly a place in the world where it never rains. Rainwater belongs to everyone. The methods to ‘harvest’ -collect, store, use and reuse- rainwater are relatively easy to apply. So why not spread these methods around the world?
For whom?
For everyone who needs water. We aim to support as many people as possible in applying rainwater harvesting in a sustainable and effective way, using the water for domestic, productive and environmental purposes. We make the concept and practice of rainwater harvesting (RWH) popular to people in areas that lack sufficient and safe water sources.

How?
Our motto ‘Rainwater belongs to everyone’ is made operational for food security, water sanitation and hygiene (WASH), climate change adaptation and resilience building. RAIN understands the power of rainwater and how to harvest and use it effectively on a catchment level. By managing rainwater for agricultural activities in agroecosystems that provide multiple services, we can improve productivity and sustainability. By appreciating and realizing the potential of rainwater, we can connect ecosystems, water and food. With this strategy we can find new opportunities to improve human well-being, making every drop count.

Rainwater harvesting has a crucial role to play in improving access to safe and affordable food and water, but this requires a change in traditional water and land planning practices and thinking. It entails moving away from single interventions towards a broader view of a larger catchment and landscape approach.

With whom?
RAIN works towards a global uptake of rainwater harvesting, connecting actors, designing programs and supporting lobbying and innovation. We are a dynamic organization, globally connected with rainwater harvesting, water buffering and ecological reconstruction practitioners and knowledge institutions since 2003. We work via international and local donors, development organisations (NGOs), companies, governments and individuals. We have local presence through field offices that operate as Rainwater Harvesting Capacity Centres (RHCCs).

RAIN receives funding from the Netherlands Directorate General for International Cooperation (DGIS), the UK Department for International Development (DFID) the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), the US Agency for International Development (USAID) and collaborates in joint programmes such as the Dutch WASH Alliance, Rainwater for Food Security, the West Africa Sanitation and Hygiene Programme (WA-WASH), and the Young Expert Programme Water (YEP).

As RAIN joins forces with as many parties as possible to have a clear and positive impact on the world in which we live and work. Curious about your opportunities? Getting in touch with us is easy. We’ll gladly discuss the possibilities with you.
We focus on regions where people and ecosystems are most vulnerable, using low-cost and simple technologies, adapted to local conditions. Our countries of operation are Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Kenya, Mali, Nepal, Pakistan, Senegal and Uganda. Currently, we are exploring the rainwater harvesting potential in Central America, Indonesia and the Andean region.


**Practical approach: RWH, 3R and MUS**

We take rainwater as the base asset and then design and help implement appropriate interventions that promote coherent cultural land practices and landscape management. We use the 3R approach: Recharge, Retention and Reuse. This combines diverse small-scale, locally-applicable, low-cost rainwater harvesting (RWH) solutions within a basin, transforming the landscape by giving it an improved buffer function.

This new approach to water resources management and agricultural production makes optimum use of the water buffer. Balancing all natural and socioeconomic functions guarantees optimum impact, giving assurance to communities-in-stress worldwide. Thus, by coherently bringing together all conditions for sustainable development, this approach will trigger individual and private investment for the scaling of 3R and rainwater harvesting.

Within the combined RWH and 3R approach, a multitude of solutions for Multiple Use water Services (MUS) can be applied. With these, communities can profit from more secure and reliable water supplies for their own priority water needs, be it domestic or productive. Focusing on areas where rain is only seasonally available and otherwise scarce, RWH presents a viable form of adapting to climate-change-related water unpredictability or scarcity.
Making it happen

Implementation
With our long-term and pioneering experience with RWH we can provide you with practical and technical advice on integrated sustainable land and water management using RWH and 3R (Recharge, Retention and Re-use) methods, as well as agricultural value chains and business development, in the following areas:
✓ programme design and management;
✓ programme and project support, monitoring and evaluation;
✓ technical support;
✓ network facilitation;
✓ lobbying and promoting;
✓ capacity building of local organizations.

Intelligence
We link state of the art theory with practice. RAIN has an extensive network of knowledge institutes, universities, practitioners and decision makers in the Dutch and international water sector. We provide our expertise in various ways:
✓ guest lectures and course development;
✓ training packages;
✓ publications (manuals, guidelines, best practices);
✓ knowledge partners and experts;
✓ tools, technologies and projects.

Advice
RAIN’s hands-on experience, expert knowledge and managerial skills have proved invaluable for international programmes and projects on RWH and 3R water buffering activities. Concretely, our activities to support healthy lives and environments include:
✓ programme and project design and management;
✓ programme and project coordination;
✓ programme and project monitoring and evaluation;
✓ lobbying and promoting;
✓ implementing small-scale RWH projects and programmes.

Interested?
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