

## Water Recharge, Retention & Reuse (3R)

### *The Untapped Potential of 3R solutions to improve Water Quality and Quantity.*

5<sup>th</sup> September 9:00 – 12:30  
Room K11

**Convenors** RAIN Foundation (RAIN: Rainwater Harvesting Implementation Network), Acacia Water, Meta Meta, the Federal Institute for Geosciences and Natural Resources, Germany (BGR) together with the World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF), Southern and Eastern Africa Rainwater Harvesting Network (SEARNET).

**Sponsors** Sponsored and supported by Aqua for all (A4A), BGR and the Cooperative Programme on Water and Climate (CPWC).

#### **Event description:**

Livelihoods depend to a large degree on access to safe, sufficient and reliable water resources. Various places on earth suffer serious water quality and scarcity problems which pose severe threats to public health, food security and enhanced livelihoods. These could be mitigated by using simple small-scale 3R solutions to address large-scale problems.

3R solutions provide hands-on means to enhance water quality and quantity issues. Groundwater recharge, fresh water storage and water quality improvement are examples of some 3R solutions with proven results.

Groundwater use and recharge and rainwater storage can be optimized for water quality and climate change adaptation, especially for those living under fragile socio-economic environments. Managing local water buffers enables dealing with increased climate variability, water quality and availability issues simultaneously. In cooperation with local communities these solutions are implementable on a large scale, if more actors start applying and funding 3R approaches.

The objective of this seminar is thus to demonstrate that 3R can be effectively used for improving water quality issues through presentation of some findings and best practices on Water Recharge, Retention & Reuse. A 3R water quality toolbox will be presented to showcase an application-oriented view and exchange of already applied practices and experiences.

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## Programme

**Chair:** *Prof Richard Carter*, Head of Technical Support Unit, WaterAid

9:00 Opening and Welcome . *Prof Richard Carter*.

### **The 3R Initiative and best practices from the field**

- 9:15 Introduction to 3R by *Mr Sjef Ernes*, Director of A4A and partner of the consortium.
- 9:30 Integrated Water Resources Management and 3R in Central-Northern Namibia, presented by *Dr Thomas Kluge*, Institute for Social-Ecological Research (ISOE) and *Dr Thomas Himmelsbach* (BGR).
- 9:45 Fresh groundwater buffering in Bangladesh, presented by Mrs Sarmin Sultana, Dhaka University/UNICEF.
- 10:00 Up scaling of 3R for improved water use in rainfed and irrigated production systems in Rwanda, presented by *Dr Azene Bekele-Tessema* , ICRAF.
- 10:15 Discussion with audience on best practices. Moderated by *Prof Richard Carter*.
- 10:30 Coffee break

### **Four round table discussions and plenary feedback**

- 11:00 Institution building and policy development for 3R, chaired by *Mr Lourdes Baptista*, CE WaterAid in India.  
3R and health, chaired by *Mr Bruce Gordon* , World Health Organisation (WHO).  
3R and saline groundwater, chaired by *Dr Arjen de Vries*, Director of Acacia Water, member of the consortium.  
Implementing and financing 3R, chaired by *Dr Azene Bekele-Tessema*.
- 12:00 Plenary discussion on up-scaling 3R approaches, Moderated by *Prof Richard Carter*.
- 12:15 Closure and Wrap-up. *Prof Richard Carter*.
- 12:30 Close of Seminar.

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