



International Rainwater Harvesting Alliance

Alianza Internacional para la Gestión del Agua de Lluvia (IRHA)

Alliance Internationale pour la Gestion de l'Eau de Pluie (IRHA)

bRAINstorming

NEWSLETTER N° 50 – FEBRUARY 2013

Our newsletter focuses on all activities concerning rainwater harvesting, the International Rainwater Harvesting Alliance (IRHA) and its partners

This month's topic:

The Private Sector and Rainwater Harvesting

Editorial

Dear Rainwater Harvesters, Readers, IRHA Members and Friends,

The Private Sector is a vital component of our work to increase the use and awareness of rainwater harvesting among the general public. If the practice of rainwater harvesting is to become widespread, we need reputable companies producing high quality rainwater harvesting products and services. Knowledge of a good company can make the decision to start harvesting the rain that bit easier.

Our Private Sector members are all companies that provide either rainwater harvesting services or products (or both!): from tanks to full rainwater harvesting systems, from groundwater recharge to rain gardens.

Many of our members go even further: implementing projects to help improve poor communities' water supplies through low-cost and appropriate technologies or by running their own rainwater harvesting awareness raising schemes.

This newsletter introduces you to a few of our private sector members.

It begins with LABARONNE CITAF, a French company that has been working in El Salvador to provide a school with water. INTEWA report on some good news - their DRAINMAX tunnel system has gained DIBt approval in Germany. Oasis Aquatic Gardens describe the use of rainwater harvesting to provide water for a pond-less waterfall, and there is also an overview of Water Harvester's activities in India. Finally, there is an introduction to Rain Harvesting's complete system of products for rainwater collection.

We are also very pleased to welcome a new member - Aqua-Aero WaterSystems BV. Based in the Netherlands, this company has started to introduce their RainCAP system in Senegal, giving communities high quality drinking water.

All rainwater harvesting companies are welcome to apply for IRHA Private Sector membership, and have their products and services advertised on our website and in the newsletter. Please visit the website for more information or send us an email - we look forward to hearing from you.

I hope you enjoy finding out more about our Private Sector Members: hopefully their work will encourage you to install your own rainwater harvesting system!



Hannah Price
Editor

In this newsletter:

LABARONNE CITAF

Their project to install flexible tanks in a school in El Salvador

INTEWA

The DRAINMAX Tunnel has received DIBt approval!

Oasis Aquatic Gardens

Rainwater harvesting to feed a pond-less waterfall

Aqua-Aero WaterSystems

A new IRHA Member! Their rainwater harvesting pilot project in Senegal

Rain Harvesting

Their complete system of rainwater collection products

Water Harvesters

Their work to increase the use and knowledge of RWH in India

Special announcement

Contribute to our new Blue Schools project in a school in Burkina Faso!

IRHA News and Activities

New Journalists for RWH, information about the Raindrops Geneva Award and the new Topic of Today

Contact

International Rainwater Harvesting Alliance
International Environment House 2,
Chemin de Balexert,
1st Floor,
1219 Châtelaine,
Geneva, Switzerland

Tel: +41 (0)22 797 4157

Editor
Hannah Price
hannah@irha-h2o.org

French Translator
Mafalda Tudal

Follow the IRHA:



www.irha-h2o.org

LABARONNE CITAF

www.labaronne-citaf.com/

LABARONNE CITAF specialises in the manufacture of flexible tanks for rainwater collection. Easy to install and economical, these freestanding tanks can reach up to 1000m³. Lightweight and foldable, they can be sent anywhere in the world.



Flexible tank in use

In partnership with FONAES, LABARONNE CITAF installed a 10m³ flexible tank in the Margarita de Cristiani School in El Salvador. The tank was then connected to the gutter using a flexible pipe. Installing the tank provided an opportunity to raise children's awareness of rainwater harvesting and hygiene.



Start of the installation of the tank

Other projects, with larger tanks, are underway in the same area.

INTEWA

www.intewa.de/

DRAINMAX Tunnel by INTEWA received the DIBt[®] approval as the first trench tunnel in Germany

INTEWA GmbH has been impressive over the past few years with its innovative improvements in the field of rainwater management and water treatment. The products and systems of the Aachen based company are safe, energy efficient and offer a sustainable solution for every drainage situation. Now the INTEWA DRAINMAX trench tunnel has obtained approval of the **German Institute for Building Technology** (DIBt[®]).



"This indicates that our method of combining security and user benefits, along with an optimum price-performance ratio for our developments, is correct,"

Michael Wurzer, Chief of Development, INTEWA

[Read more...](#)

Oasis Aquatic Gardens

www.oasisaquaticgardens-ky.net/

Founded in late 2008, Oasis Aquatic Gardens is based in Kentucky, USA. The company's main objective is to offer rainfall harvesting systems that will coincide with waterfalls, streams, ponds, fountains, geysers, landscape enhancements and rain gardens.



This 130 gallon Bush Slimline Tank was installed to automatically replenish water level in a pond-less waterfall. The diverter utilized UV resistant PVC which allows the homeowner to visually see rainwater being diverted as well ensure no sediment build up. Cementing of PVC joints is not recommended, just in case it needs to be cleaned.



Reconstructed pond-less waterfall: water disappears into a large basin covered with pebbles and is pumped back up to upper basin via a 5100 gph submersible pump.

[Read more...](#)

Aqua-Aero WaterSystems BV - New Member

<http://www.aaws.nl/>

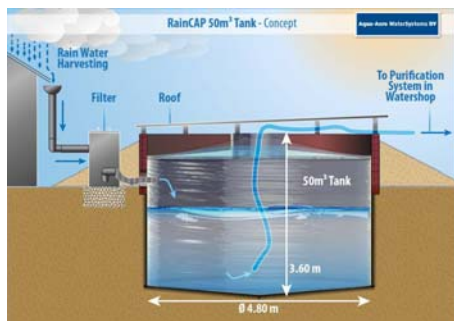
Breakthrough in Senegal: ingenuity and local entrepreneurship combined

The need for Rainwater Harvesting has been growing rapidly over the last decennia. Basis for this increasing popularity is the growing need for water not only to be used for agriculture purposes, but also for producing high quality drinking water in combination with the awareness that rainwater is a valuable water source. We from Aqua-Aero WaterSystems have developed a simple, economic and cheap solution to capture rainwater, sell it and thus deliver a financial sustainable option.

In July 2012 we realized a rainwater harvesting pilot project in Senegal capturing 65,000 liters:

Cost reduction

In order to reduce costs, we used a 0.5 mm PE foil sheet tank that was situated into a hole in the ground. These tanks, or 'RainCAPs', can be best described as a giant plastic bag. No concrete, RVS or other expensive materials were used. We dig a hole, add a simple 4 layer brick stone wall and lower the plastic bag into it.



Artistic impression of RainCAP 50m³ and installation of RainCAP system in Senegal

The practice

In June 2012 the RainCAP system was installed in Senegal. One month later the rain season started, filling the foil tanks rapidly. Once the tanks were full, and tests had proved the water pathogens free, people were invited to taste and buy the water. Over the last month an increasing number of people started buying water. After 4 months of operation we sold 20,000 liters of water. The collected rainwater appears to be of high quality, the taste is excellent and the foil construction works fine.

[Read more...](#)

Rain Harvesting

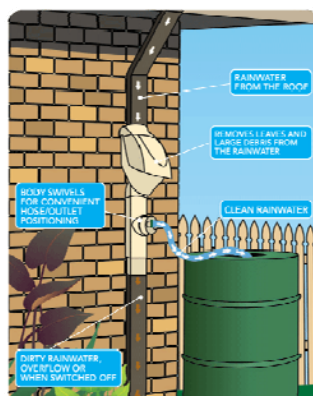
<http://rainharvesting.com.au/>

The Rain Harvesting offices were badly affected by the recent floods in Brisbane. They are up and running now, but have not been able to provide an article for this edition of the newsletter. For now, you will find an overview of the company - watch out for their article in a future newsletter.

Whether in drought or in bloom, we need to find better ways of using water. Rain Harvesting is a manufacturer and wholesaler of sustainable water products intent on helping people build sustainable futures.

We believe it makes sense to catch pure, fresh, free rainwater from the sky and have developed a complete system of products for rainwater collection. Used in conjunction with rainwater tanks, the products are relatively maintenance free, simple in their operation and help ensure rainwater harvesting systems deliver superior results.

Rainwater Harvesting involves the collection, storage and distribution of rainwater from the roof, for use inside and outside the home or business, and is the most efficient water supply solution for our communities' water problems.



Water Harvesters

www.waterharvesters.com/

*"Rain is not only drops of water.
It is the love of sky for earth.
They never meet each other
but send love this way."*

Water Harvesters was established in the year 2000 in the capital city of India, New Delhi, with a sole objective of making people aware of the far reaching effects of ground water abuse and the consequential hazards related to ground water depletion. It has grown from a one-man show to a consortium of scientists and hydro-geologists who work day and night to devise state-of-the-art techniques to implement best RWH structures, so as to balance out the needs of the clients with those of the environment.

As a one-stop shop, Water Harvesters has become one of the largest integrated water management companies offering products, services and complete outsourced water management programs in all major industries and communities using water.



Pond management in Meerut

Emergence of Water Harvesters - A humble beginning

Realizing the importance of rainwater harvesting, the company Water Harvesters has taken a noble initiative to execute the project at various locations in India. Though the rainwater harvesting concept has been a household name for all these years but not many people are aware of the technology used and the need to replenish the ground water levels.

IRHA News and Activities - Special Announcement:

We need your help to provide a school in Burkina Faso with a sustainable supply of drinking water and decent sanitation

The problem

Today, there are too many communities and schools in the world that have no access to water or decent sanitation. Children are becoming dehydrated and ill – they cannot learn like this. Millions of children die every year because of diarrhoea, and the leading cause? poor sanitation and dirty water.

In 2006, we started our Blue Schools Programme to improve conditions in schools that had no water supply and very poor sanitation conditions.

This is where we need your help...

We have just formulated a brand new Blue Schools project, and we are asking for your help to make it happen. We need to raise \$30,000 by 2nd April to get this project started. We know it's a big challenge, but the results will be more than worth it!

Lantaogo Primary School is located in the East of Burkina Faso. It has 282 students and 6 teachers. Though almost brand new, the school has no water source. There are four toilets, but these are in a poor condition, are not separated for boys and girls, and are not enough for the number of children. Illness is a major cause of absence, with malaria and diarrhoeal diseases very common.



Lantaogo Primary School

What will we do?

We will build three water tanks that can store 120,000 litres of water. These will collect the rain that falls on the roofs of the school buildings. Children and teachers will have at least 2.5 litres of water every school day of the year.

We will also build toilet blocks – separate ones for boys, girls and teachers – so everyone at the school can go to the toilet safely and in privacy. A small tank will be attached to the toilet blocks to collect water from the roof so the children can wash their hands.

However, we believe a project should go further than this, so we carry out other activities.

Every student will be given a tree to plant and look after – this is called “A child, a tree”. This not only improves the school grounds, but also links the children to their local environment and teaches them responsibility.

A vegetable garden will be planted in the school. Vegetables from the garden can be eaten by the children at lunchtimes, improving their diet. Children will also help out in the garden, learning useful gardening skills and how to share.

A volleyball court will be built. Sport is essential to the healthy development of children and teaches them important skills such as fair play, leadership and team work. Volleyball was chosen as it can be played equally by boys, girls and mixed teams.

Finally, the children will have lessons on drinking water, using toilets, the water cycle, deforestation, caring for trees, waste treatment and peace and tolerance. The teachers will also have training on similar topics, so they can teach it to the new children every school year.

We need your help to make this project a reality!

Providing a school with something as simple as water and toilets makes a huge difference to the entire lives of these children. If they can stay at school and get a full education, the world opens up to them.

Please give what you can; **even the smallest amount gets us closer to our goal** of giving these children a better life in school!

If you can't contribute, please get the word out and make some noise about our campaign! Help us reach as many people as possible.

If you would like to contribute towards this project, please click on the button below - this will take you to the Indiegogo website, where you can also find out more about the project.

I would like to make a contribution

Thank you!!



Everyone who contributes \$100 or more will receive a thank you present from one of the children when the project ends!

IRHA News and Activities

New Journalists for Rainwater Harvesting

We are very pleased to welcome three new Journalists to our *Journalists for Rainwater Harvesting* group! Steve Mbogo from Kenya and Chipso Masara and Jeffrey Gogo, both from Zimbabwe, are all environmental journalists with a passion for rainwater harvesting.

The *Journalists for Rainwater Harvesting* group was created to become a platform to bring together the talents of journalists to raise awareness of rainwater harvesting.



Visit our website to find out more about the group and to read their articles

Raindrops Geneva Award 2013

We are looking for posters that show the benefits and/or uses of rainwater harvesting!

They could be on domestic use, groundwater recharge, agriculture, or risk reduction. Keep in mind that the aim of the competition is to make the general public aware that rainwater can be (and is!) an essential resource.

The three best posters will be awarded prizes, including 1,000CHF for first prize. The deadline for submission is the **31st October 2013** at 12.00 p.m. (midnight) GMT, and the winner posters will be announced in November 2013. The competition is open to everyone.

Before submitting your poster, please visit the [IRHA website](http://irha-h2o.org) to read the Rules of the Competition and to download the entry form. You can also email us at raindropsaward@irha-h2o.org for more information.

Enter your posters now!

We are launching a new Topic of Today:

Agricultural Rainwater Harvesting

We are looking for academic papers and studies on the use of rainwater harvesting in agriculture. Papers could be about a specific technique or techniques, or a case study showing how rainwater harvesting can help increase production. Examples from large-scale farming to small-scale domestic production are all welcome. Studies can come from anywhere in the world, developed and developing countries alike.

If you are interested in providing a paper or study for the Topic of Today, or would like more information, please send an email to secretariat@irha-h2o.org.

The Topic of Today is a platform for sharing new scientific and research studies related to rainwater harvesting. Always centred around a specific subject area, experts in the field of rainwater harvesting will be invited to share their knowledge on the Topic of Today!

Past Topics of Today: [Rainwater Quality](#) and [Groundwater Recharge](#).



IRHA Video Corner

The IRHA Video Corner showcases interesting and informative short films on several different aspects of rainwater harvesting.



Join us online and get involved!



Upcoming Newsletter

The next edition of bRAIN-storming is:

World Water Day 2013

If you have any ideas, articles or pictures that you would like to contribute, please send them to us at:

newsletter@irha-h2o.org

Subscribe to the Newsletter

To subscribe or unsubscribe, please email us at:

newsletter@irha-h2o.org

Become a Member

The IRHA Members benefit from our extensive network and contribute to increasing the global use of rainwater harvesting. Visit our [website](http://irha-h2o.org) for more information.