

CLOUD FISHER IMPLEMENTED IN MOROCCO FOR THE COLLECTION OF WATER

March 22nd, in occasion of the World Water Day promoted by UN-Water, in Morocco the partners involved celebrated the first anniversary of the Cloud Fisher initiative to bring potable water to the Aït Baâmrane region.

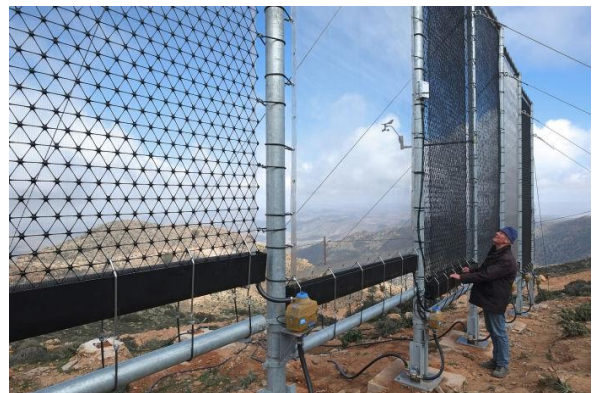
The project is realized by the [Dar Si Hmad NGO](#) from Morocco in collaboration with Spanish and German partners.

In June 2006 the Si Hmad Derham Foundation and the University of La Laguna (Canary Islands) began a study to evaluate the viability of obtaining drinking water from fog for the local communities on the coast and inland near Ifni. Measurements showed that Mount Boutmezguida was particularly suitable for this purpose, and testing of the CloudFisher began in November 2013. Since December 2013, Dar Si Hmad NGO has started a partnership with the German WasserStiftung Foundation to enhance the fog-collection technology.

CloudFisher is a system to collect clean water in a non-invasive, ecologically friendly way in regions where fog abounds. While Southwest Morocco is water-poor, abundant fog drapes the area 6 months/year. In the system implemented in Morocco, water is obtained from the clouds that winds lead to the Boutmezguida Mountain, which is about 1,225 meters above sea level and about thirty kilometres from the Atlantic coast. Water is moved seven kilometres through a pipeline to rural populations Agni Zekri, Tamerout and Agni Ihya.

The project have erected a series of tall steel poles, hung with rectangular black polymer nets. These are the fog harvesters. Built on arid, rocky ground at an elevation of more than four thousand feet, they can, in twenty-four hours, collect up to seventeen gallons of water, condensed fog from the nearby Atlantic, per square yard of netting (6300 daily Liters).

The water recuperated by the Fog Catchers can be used to supply communities and agriculture. In particular the installed system is able to provide drinkable water for 1500 people living in the villages around Mount Boutmezguida and the water required by 7.000 grazing animals and local agricultural crops (most of the



inhabitants are small farmers). Socioeconomic surveys have shown that water consumption averages around 15 litres per person per day.

Given the increasing cycles of drought, the scarcity of rain and low aquifer re-charge rates, fog is an excellent, reliable, sustainable supplemental water resource that relieves pressure on aquifers and wells. The fog-water harvesting system is an example of integrated water resource management which considers water resources as integral to the ecosystem as well as social and economic goods.

The first Fog Catchers were installed towards the end of the 50's in the Atacama Desert of Chile, and since 1963 the innovative technology is promoted by the Catholic University and by UNESCO. Nowadays, Fog Catchers are being used in the desert of Atacama in Chile, in Latin American countries (Ecuador, Guatemala, Peru), in Nepal, in the desert of Néguey of Israel, and in some countries of Africa. Studies on this innovative technology are being carried out in the Canary Islands by the University of La Laguna.

German partners of the project in Morocco are the Munich Re Foundation, the Technical University Munich, the Bundeswehr University Munich and the Aqualonis GmbH Company specialized in planning, building and maintaining fog water collection systems.

To know more

[Dar Si Hmad website](#)

[World Water Day UN Water](#)

[Wasser Stiftung website](#)

[Munich Re Foundation website](#)

[Aqualonis company website](#)

[Fog Collectors in Canary Islands](#)

[Magazine of the Government of Canary Islands](#)

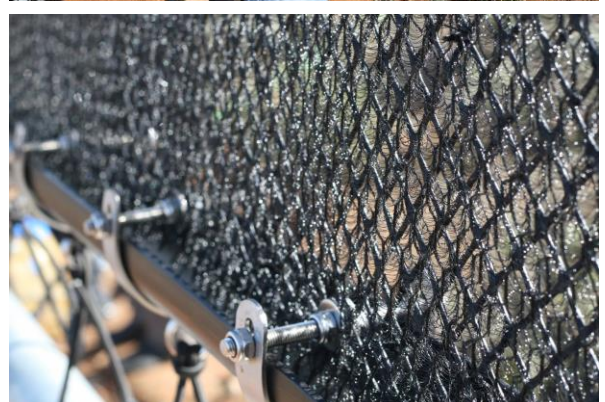
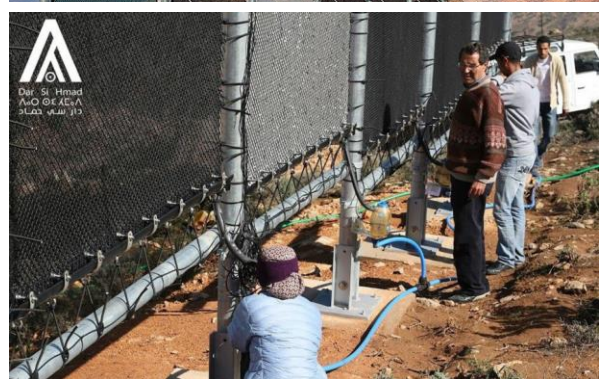
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