# "Mixing and matching": Combining 'best bet' practices into rainwater management strategies suited to the local environment

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**Session: Share Fair**



MATCHING RAINWATER MANAGEMENT PRACTICES TO PRE-DEFINED LANDSCAPES AND JOINING UP WITH OTHERS TO FORM WORKING STRATEGIES

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## Key Message

Combining the 'right' rainwater management practices across the landscape can be a source of important synergies.

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# Summary

Rainwater management practices might form synergies when they are combined across the landscape, namely across the high, middle and lowlands. Whereas individual practices are relatively well understood, little evidence exists on combinations of practices. Due to the complexity involved when considering the landscape scale, experts often find it difficult to talk about the consequences of combining practices, resulting in the difficulty to gain expert knowledge. We propose a game to capture the complexity of the landscape scale and come up with rainwater management strategies, i.e. combinations of practices in a landscape. A database of best-bet rainwater management practices for the Ethiopian highlands has been developed.  It contains information about purposes as well as bio-physical, socio-economic and institutional conditions for successful adoption of each practice. The game aims at : 1) presenting and validating our database ; and 2) exploring and mobilizing further experiences from the participants. Participants will be asked to match their rainwater management practices to pre-defined landscapes and join up with others to form working strategies. With this game, acquired knowledge about the potential impacts of practices and the factors contributing to their success can be shared. It stimulates discussion about how to select and combine technologies at landscape scale. Issues of trade-offs and synergies as well as interventions also come up.We hope to share previous experiences with the game, play it, and extent the discussion to how other basins address the emerging issues.