In 2018 the first two legally authorised, and recognised as such, MAR schemes entered into operations in Italy. They are the Marecchia fan infiltration basin (Emilia Romagna) run by the Regione Emilia Romagna authority and the Suvereto infiltration basin (Tuscany) run by the LIFE REWAT project Consortium (co-funded by the EU). The latter works in automatic mode with advanced sensing and data transmission technologies for monitoring surface- and ground-water and performing recharge operations.

In the meantime, capacity building activities were run by means of site visits at the Suvereto MAR plant along with the chartered order of geologists and engineers, and students of the MSc in Geotechnologies of the Univ. Siena and of the Summer School on Digital water (run at Scuola Superiore Sant’Anna, Pisa). On October the 3rd 2018 a successful workshop on MAR scheme design and construction (following the ongoing regulation DM 100/2016) was jointly run by LIFE REWAT partners and Regione Emilia Romagna at the GEOFLUID fair in Piacenza and actively participated by about 60 persons. Finally, a site visit for local administrators and politicians was run at the site on December 14th 2018. The Suvereto MAR scheme was also showcased in a couple of tv news broadcast.

Students walking across the dry infiltration basin.
Field trip at the SUVERETO recharge scheme... during natural recharge!

View of the Suvereto MAR scheme
Also birds like MAR in Emilia Romagna region (it says “we hope recharge will be going on at the MArecchia MAR scheme”).