On 6th of December 2022 the Mine Water Management Network (MIWANET) of the project WaMiNa (Sustainable and Climate adapted Water Management in Mining Industry of Namibia and Neighbouring Countries) met GISFI in Homécourt near Metz in France. GISFI, the “Groupement d'intérêt scientifique sur les friches industrielles”, is a field laboratory investigating the potentials of brownfield soils for phytoremediation and biomass production. Since the last years, GISFI is also focussing on agromining concepts to reprocess mining residues or to use appropriate plants to extract valuable metals from metal rich soils and corresponding rocks. This knowledge is of high interest to the WaMiNa project and its stakeholders organized within the MiWaNet to develop concepts for the use of mine discharge water and mine waste materials with respect to optimize water security in the post mining water management. The WaMiNa project is granted to the Working Group Soil Science and Geoecology at the Institute of Environmental Sciences and Geography of the University of Potsdam by the German Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) within the WASA call (Water Security in Africa.) MiWaNet is a consortium of universities, consultancies, mining companies and public authorities working in the field of Mine Water Management in Germany, Namibia, South Africa, Botswana and Zambia with more than 50 members. From 5th till 8th of December MiWaNet carried out its first meeting in physical presence and as hybrid format in Germany at the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology on behalf of the University of Potsdam with participants from all cooperating countries. More information can be requested from stefan.norra@uni-potsdam.de

Jean Louis Morel, the former head of GISFI, explains experiments for phytoremediation and agromining

Jean Louis Morel introduces into brownfield soil challenges