



Water management practices in the Palestinian territories and Israel, cooperation in dispute time to tackle the insecurities of water shortage.

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In a region like the occupied territories “Palestine” and Israel, the water sector is in crisis as a result of its climate as a semi arid lands of the region simply do not have enough water to meet the increasing demand resulting from population growth and agricultural and industrial development, also the water resources became more scarce as a result of mismanagements practices and lack of information required for sound and better management. As water becomes scarcer and its quality continues to deteriorate, the Palestinian-Israeli water conflict becomes more and more important and the alarm rings to alert both Palestinians and Israelis to become more aware and looking for cooperation and mutual work to control and manage their shared water resources. For good cooperation and mutual management for the shared water resource the issue of water rights between Israel and Palestine should be determined and defined with respect to equitable shares and reasonable use of the shared water resources from quality and quantity point views, which mean also to define the responsibility of both parties to protect the shared water resources safe and clean.

Palestine and Israel are facing water shortage that might reach the level of crisis as a result of increasing demand due to both population growth 3.5% (PCPS, 2002) and socio economic development. The water resources became scarcer also as a result of mismanagements practices and lack of hydrogeological information required for sound efficient management. Both the water quantity and quality continue to deteriorate with time.

The Palestinian-Israeli water relationship requires from both sides to have good co-operation based on good will to insure the durability and sustainability through joint management of their shared water resources. Equal responsibility of both parties is expected to be the common dominator and acceptable approach to solve the water problem and it will create platform and encouraging good environment to understand each other. It is likely to be a good lesson for future cooperation to find common solutions for any emerging water problem.