



Palestinian groundwater resources under drought conditions

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Groundwater resources are of an extreme importance in the eastern Mediterranean area from different points of view: environmental, socio-economical and political. This vital natural resource is under stress for several reasons; one of these is drought. The years from 1997 to 2000 have been designated as drought-years in most of the region, where rainfall was less than expected and followed by an alarming trend of dropping groundwater levels, resulting in acute water shortage. The purpose of this paper is to describe the impact of different scenarios of drought and the impact on groundwater resources in Palestine, using GIS as analytical tool.