



1st Teaching Workshop on Environmental Economics

for the Middle East and North Africa

December 5-16, 2005 - ICTP, Trieste, Italy

Global Water Concerns

Lecture I.1

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The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Global Water Concerns Lecture I.1

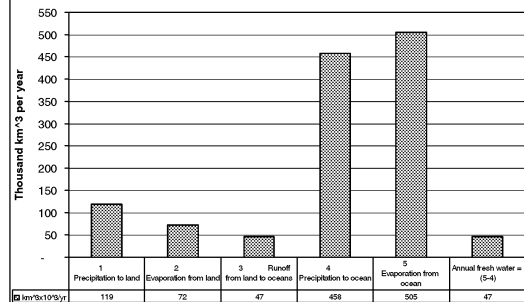
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Global water cycle

Figure 2.1: Global Hydrologic Cycle



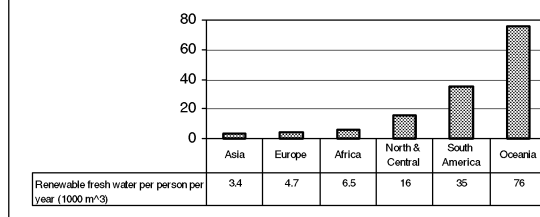
Population trends and water

- Global world population have grown from
- 1 Billion people in 1800 to
- 2.5 Billion in 1950 to
- 6 Billion in 2000 to ?
- 11 Billion ? 17 Billion ? 6 Billion in 2100
- With population growth came
Increase in water use per Capita

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Water per capita -- continents

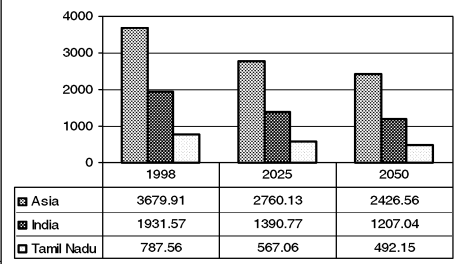
Figure 1.2: 1993 Global Fresh Water Distribution
(1000 m³ per person per year)



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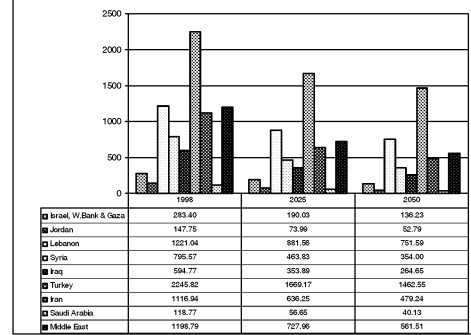
Water per capita: Asia – India – Tamil Nadu

Figure 1.3: Renewable Fresh Water per Capita (m³/yr)



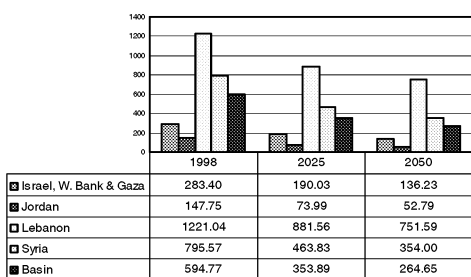
Water per capita – Middle East

Figure 1.4: Middle East's Renewable Fresh Water per Capita (m³/yr)



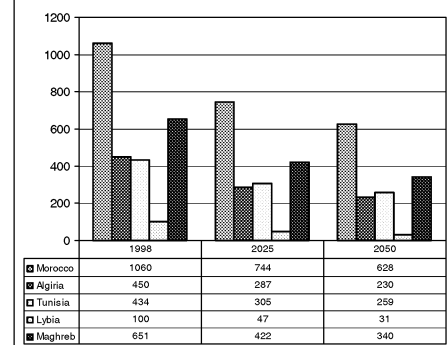
Water per capita: Jordan Basin

Figure 1.5: JRB Renewable Fresh Water per Capita (m³/yr)

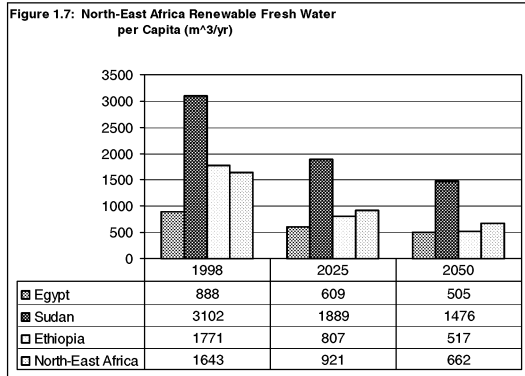


Water per capita: Maghreb

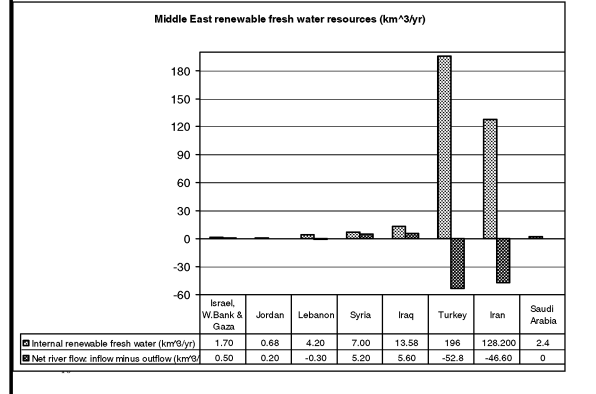
Figure 1.6: Maghreb's Renewable Fresh Water per Capita (m³/yr)



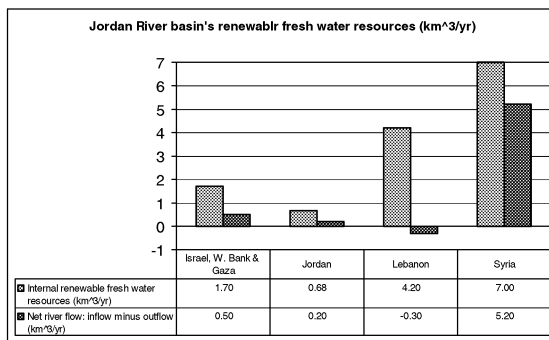
Water per capita: North East Africa



Joint water: Middle East



Joint water: Jordan Basin



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Dimensions of water

- Source -surface vs. ground
- Strategic decision
 - Supply expansion
 - Demand management
 - Quality control
- Allocation system -queuing vs. pricing vs. markets
- Consumptive Use Non consumptive use
 - Agricultural-major use Environmental
 - Industrial Hydro
 - Municipal Recreational

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Benefits of irrigation

Irrigation allowed us to overcome population growth

Irrigated land has increased from 50 mha (million hectares) in 1900 to 267 mha today.

Between 1962 and 1996 the irrigated area in developing countries increased at 2% annually.

- The 17% irrigated land produces 40% of global food
- The value of output of irrigated cropland is about \$625/ha/year (\$95/ha/year for rain-fed cropland and \$17.50/ha/year for rangelands).
- High productivity of agriculture slowed expansion of deforestation.

Water supply limits

- Water consumption in 2000 is 4-5 times as in 1950
- Most “economical” sources of water diversion are used
- Will need more water to accommodate more people
- There is appreciation for environmental services of water

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More bad news

- **Environmental cost** - lose of habitat
- **Increase of water and land salinity**
Soil Salinity reduce productivity of 20% of irrigated land 1.5 million hectares of these lands are deserted annually
- **Water logging Costs \$11 Billion annually**
- **Ground water depletion**
 - 8% of India’s food produced with depleted aquifers
 - In 1973, 3% of India's groundwater pumped below 10 meters in 1994 46%.

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Social Concerns

- **Water born diseases**
 - kill 4-5 million annually
- **Displacement**
 - 40 – 80 million people has been displaced 1950-99.
- **International conflicts and water supply**

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References for Tsur's lectures

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