WATER SCARCITY IN THE WEST BANK: A Case Study of Aida Refugee Camp

Presented by:
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This presentation explores the findings of a Tufts University “Water Systems, Science and Society” program in Aida Refugee Camp in the West Bank. Research was conducted at a local level in the Jordan River and Dead Sea Basin, a transboundary water body shared among five countries. More than 40 percent of the Jordan River Basin is located in Jordan, 37 percent in Israel, 10 percent in Syria, 9 percent in the West Bank, and 4 percent in Lebanon. Data were collected in the region in March 2014 through site visits, expert interviews, and household water data surveys, and were supplemented with water and climate change documents from available literature. In particular, this presentation will discuss how water research can be approached from a multi-disciplinary perspective, and to what degree water can encourage engagement to assist cooperation among Israel, Jordan, and the Palestinian Authority.

Margaret McKenzie is a researcher and certified mediator specializing in water, environmental sustainability, and basic human rights. To date, she has worked with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), Institute for International Relations (IIGR), the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA), as well as community-based groups in Canada, Jordan, Palestine, and other areas. Her current research is focused on desalination and aims to understand the policy implications of innovation and technology transfer to the water/energy nexus. Margaret holds a Bachelor of Arts and Science from Queen’s University (Ontario, Canada) and is pursuing a graduate degree from The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy (Massachusetts, United States).

DATE:
Wednesday, April 15, 2015

TIME:
2:00 pm

VENUE:
Classroom B205 (Liberal Arts Building)