

Urooj Amjad, PhD

*Postdoctoral research associate
Environmental Sciences and Engineering/
The Water Institute at UNC*



Dr. Urooj Amjad

Urooj Amjad’s original inspiration for working on water issues was to explore water’s use as a tool for cooperation rather than conflict. In 1998, she researched Israel-Palestine water management issues. In emphasizing cooperation, she explored her related interest in how societies adapt to difficult political, economic and environmental circumstances.

“Water management is a window to understanding these complicated and life-relevant issues,” Amjad says. “Inspiration for continuing my research on water issues evolved toward providing water services for all household water users and the efficient

management of our resources. As a society, we design formal and informal rules to guide our behavior for desirable outcomes. Understanding the relationship between the intentions, rules that get us there, and the desirable outcomes are motivation for me to analyze institutional behavior, regulation and policy, as I did more recently in the fully privatized water sector in the U.K.”

“Water management needs to be understood as part of a wider system. One of the Water Institute at UNC’s research programs now examines how decision-making works and the role information plays in contributing to improved water, sanitation and hygiene. These background motivations form part of my growing interest in the relationship between water, energy and food. —Urooj Amjad”

Rainwater is collected for household use in this West Bank town of Beit Sahour, Palestine.



PHOTOS BY MICHAEL SHADE