

Challenge of Water Shortage in the World and Azerbaijan and Scientific Practical Solution



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Abstract

The rapid growth in world population and limitation of soil and water resources have caused major problem for human nutrition security in the world. Only 3% of water resources are fresh water. According to the FAO report, if in the any country Amount of fresh water is less than 1700m³ per capita, this country is faced to serious water shortage. At the present, in the 22 countries share of fresh water per capita is less than 100m³ and in the 18 countries is more than 2000m³. Therefore, Azerbaijan is one of the countries which have faced serious water shortage.

Keywords: Water and soil resources; shortage; FOOD nutrition; Kg/m³

Introduction

The rapid growth in world population and limitation of soil and water resources have caused major problem for human nutrition security. Some 40% of the world's land surface is used for the purposes of keeping all 7 billion of us fed. And the vast majority of that land about 30% of the world's total ice free surface is used not to raise agriculture productions. Water is the driving force of all nature. The annual renewable water of this country is 7-9 milliard m³. Increasing population on the one hand and limitation of water and soil resources on the other hand is major challenge for Azerbaijan. More than 60% or 5.4 milliard m³ water resources are used by agriculture sector. Refer to Government program in the 2007, the annual agricultural production has been 6521788 MT. In fact 0.73kg agricultural production is produced per one cubic meter water. For providing food security, it must be increased to 1 Kg/m³ in 2025 and 1.5Kg/m³ in 2050 by using scientific method such as modern irrigation systems and agro technology.

Unfortunately for our planet, supplies are now running dry at an alarming rate. According to the FAO report, if in the any country Amount of fresh water is less than 1700m³ per capita, this country is faced to serious water shortage. At the present, in the 22 countries share of fresh water per capita is less than 100m³ and in the 18 countries is more than 2000m³. According to current projections of POPULATION growth, the world population of humans will continue to grow until at least 2050, with the estimated population,

based on current growth trends, to reach 9 billion in 2040 and some predictions putting the population in 2050 as high as 11 billion. World population passed the 7 billion mark on October 31, 2011. The amount of precipitation falling on land is almost 110 000 km³ per year. About 56 percent of this amount is evapo-transpired by forests and natural landscapes and 5 percent by rain fed agriculture. The remaining 39 percent or 43 000 km³ per year is converted to surface runoff (feeding rivers and lakes) and groundwater (feeding aquifers). These are called renewable freshwater resources. At global level, the withdrawal ratios are 69 percent agricultural, 12 percent municipal and 19 percent industrial. These numbers, however, are biased strongly by the few countries which have very high water withdrawals. Averaging the ratios of each individual country, we find that "for any given country" these ratios are 59, 23 and 18 percent respectively (Figure 1).

Today, 2.5 billion people lack access to improved sanitation, of which 1 billion practice open defecation. Poor sanitation impacts health, education, the environment, and industries such as tourism. At least 700 million people lack access to safe drinking water. Poor sanitation, water, and hygiene lead to about 675,000 premature deaths annually, and the lack of access to safe water results in up to 7 percent of GDP in equivalent economic losses in some countries every year. Water challenges cut across economic sectors. The global population is growing fast and estimates show that

with current practices, the world will face a 40 percent shortfall between forecasted demand and available supply of water by 2030. Today, 70 percent of global water withdrawals are for agriculture. Feeding 9 billion people by 2050 will require a 60 percent increase in agricultural production and a 15 percent increase in water withdrawals. More than half of the world’s population now lives in urban areas. And the number is growing fast. By 2025, about 1.8 billion people will be living in regions or countries with absolute water scarcity.

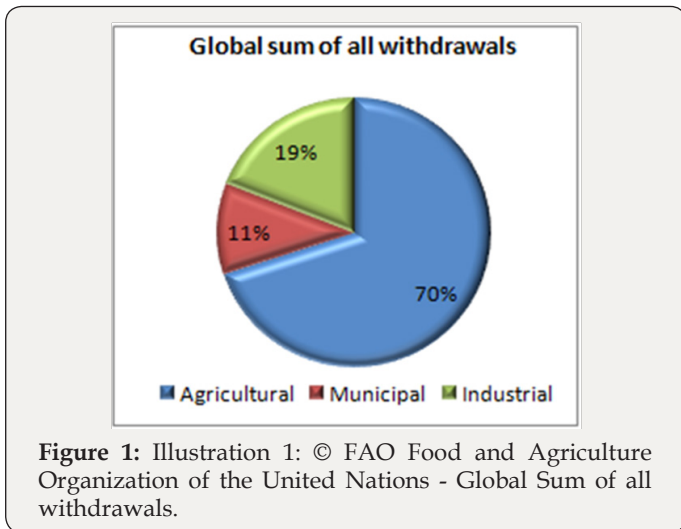


Figure 1: Illustration 1: © FAO Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations - Global Sum of all withdrawals.

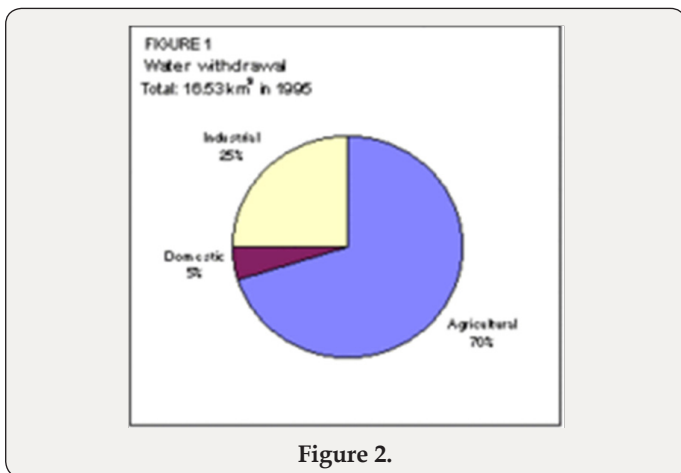


Figure 2.

A glance to water and soil resources in the Republic Azerbaijan: Azerbaijan, a mountainous country bordered by the Caspian Sea. The agricultural area is 4756, 5 thousand hectares, accounts for 55 percent of the country’s total area and contributes about 13 percent to the country’s GDP. Azerbaijan is one of the countries which have faced serious water shortage. The total inflow into Azerbaijan is thus estimated at 20.980km³/year. e. Increasing population on one hand and limitation of water and soil resources on other hand is major challenge for Azerbaijan. The growth of population Republic of Azerbaijan from 2015 to 2050 has been showed in table 1. The internally generated surface water resources are estimated at 5.955km³/year. The total renewable surface water resources (RSWR), including incoming and bordering flows, are estimated at 28.115km³/year. In 1995, the total water withdrawal

for agricultural, domestic and industrial purposes was 16.53 km³, of which over 70% was used for agricultural uses and almost 25% for industrial purposes (Figure 2). Soil salinization and sodication have been identified as major processes of land degradation and loss of agricultural production. It should be noted that 60% of the territory of the country is mountainous and natural and anthropogenic factors, causes all kinds of erosion processes in the lands.

The results of researches have showed that the processes of all kinds of erosion are outspread in our country widely. Currently, more than 41.8% arable land of country has been eroded by various degrees of erosions and in some region, it is reached to 70-85%. Irrigation erosion is the biggest factor of mentioned challenges. Irrigation in farming, gardening and livestock lead to the erosion of land, any time people are not paying attention to soil protection during agricultural activities. Our Country has been faced acute water shortage. The Water reserves of this country are 32, 5 billion cubic meters. In dry years, this amount is reduced up to 23, 16 billion m³. Only 30% of this amount of water resources are used inside country and the remaining 70% it the trilled to neighboring countries territory. The result of researches showed that the modern irrigation systems are used in 4% of arable land and remaining 96% are irrigated by traditional method like as flooding and furrow manner. Therefore, in the arable land, the underground water level rises gradate. Even in the some areas more than 100thousand hectares, underground water level has been reached to surface of suitable arable land and caused salinization problems. The results of study show that, the Water reserves in Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan are about 70, 25 and 10 billion m³ respectively. Otherwise the annual Water reserves per capita 11000, 3000 and 1500m³ respectively in these countries. According to the result of studies, in 2020, the annual Water reserves per capita in Azerbaijan reduced 2 times compare to Georgia and times to Armenia.

Results

Water challenges cut across economic sectors. The global population is growing fast and estimates show that with current practices, the world will face a 40 percent shortfall between forecasted demand and available supply of water by 2030. Today, 70 percent of global water withdrawals are for agriculture. Feeding 9 billion people by 2050 will require a 60 percent increase in agricultural production and a 15 percent increase in water withdrawals. According to UN prognoses reports the Azerbaijan population rise from 9 613 person in 2015 10 492 person to in 2050 as the following Table 1. According to World Bank statistics, the population of Azerbaijan was marked 8581300 person in 2017 and refer to Azerbaijan governmental program the annual Water reserves was 7-9m³ and annual agriculture production amount was 6521788 ton. Therefore the annual Water reserves per capita 815-1049 cub meter and withdrawals for agriculture were 5.4 billion cub meter. On otherwise, for 1 cubic meter water, 0.7 kg Agriculture production was produced. In Azerbaijan governmental program for agriculture production in 2015, the share of per capita of agriculture


product has been prognoses 11.2 ton per year. At present, Changeable climate concept, the population growing, indicate that supplying human feed will be impossible by mentioned conditions. For providing food security, it must be increased to 1 Kg/m³ in 2025 and 1.5Kg/m³ in 2050 by using scientific method such as modern irrigation systems and agro-technology.

Table 1: The growth of population Republic of Azerbaijan from 2015 to2050.

Year	Population(1000)
2015	9 613
2020	10 030
2025	10 309
2030	10 474
2035	10 570
2040	10 614
2045	10 590
2050	10 492

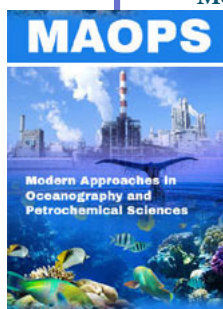
Recommendation

- a) **Water is at the center of economic and social development:** it is vital to maintain health, grow food, generate energy, manage the environment, and create jobs. Refer to mentioned conditions in the many countries, the efficiency of agriculture products must be calculated by consumption water for one kilogram product instead of ton/ha.
- b) Priority of Farm management and Utilization modern irrigation systems on farm and erosion protection on the annual Azerbaijan governmental program.
- c) Creation Education and Extension on Agricultural ministry for Practical Instruction of farmer and extension of modern agro technology throughout country.

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