

***SHARED Water Resources Under Occupation
The MISSING JUSTICE of Palestinian Case***



**Eng. Deeb Abdelghafour
Palestinian Water Authority**

Shared Resources

Hydrogeological Boundaries vs Political Boundaries



Groundwater (Western, Eastern and North-Eastern) underlies the West Bank. Part of Coastal Aquifer underlies Gaza Strip..



Surface Water (5 riparians share Jordan River & 3 riparians share Dead Sea)

SURFACE WATER IN PALESTINE



Groundwater Resources in West Bank: Allocations and Utilizations

	1995 Oslo Agreement II (MCM) Interim Agreement= 5 years				Utilization 2015(MCM)			
	Western	NE	Eastern	Total	Western	NE	Eastern	Total
Israeli Occupation	340	103	40	483	411	103	150	664
Palestine	22	42	54 + 78=132	196	37	21	65	123

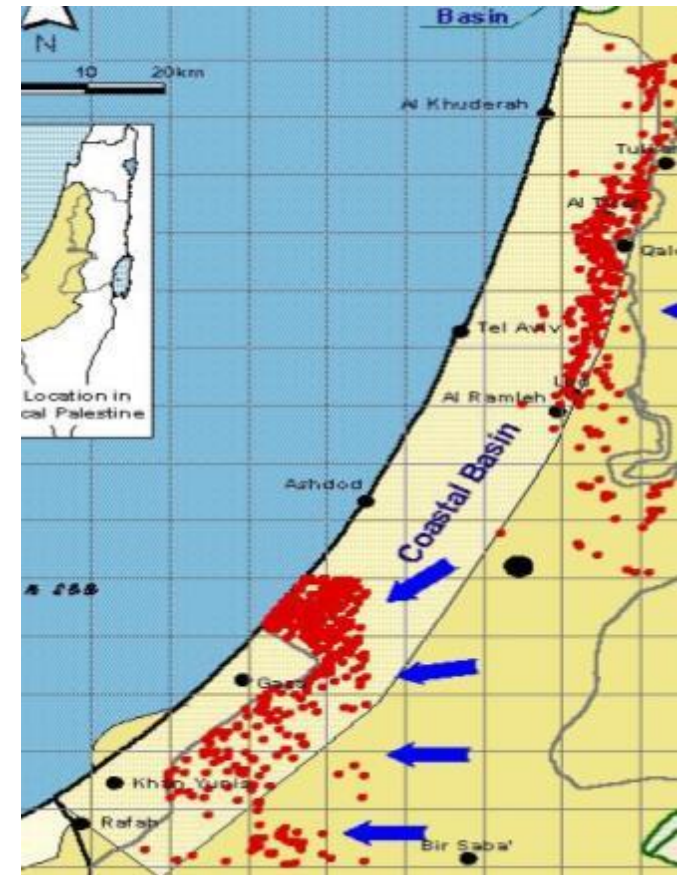
As one of Oslo Obligations....Joint Water Committee (JWC) was formulated

Coastal Aquifer (Out of Oslo Agreement)

Utilization 2015

Palestinian area	167 MCM
Israeli area	433 MCM

! More than 97% of the Gaza aquifer is not suitable for drinking purposes



2- Jordan River

- ✓ Palestinians have **NO** use **NO** access since the Israeli Occupation in 1967
- ✓ Palestinian Allocation is around 250-300 MCM/Y.
- ✓ The huge reduction in river's flow is due to diversion projects in the upstream.



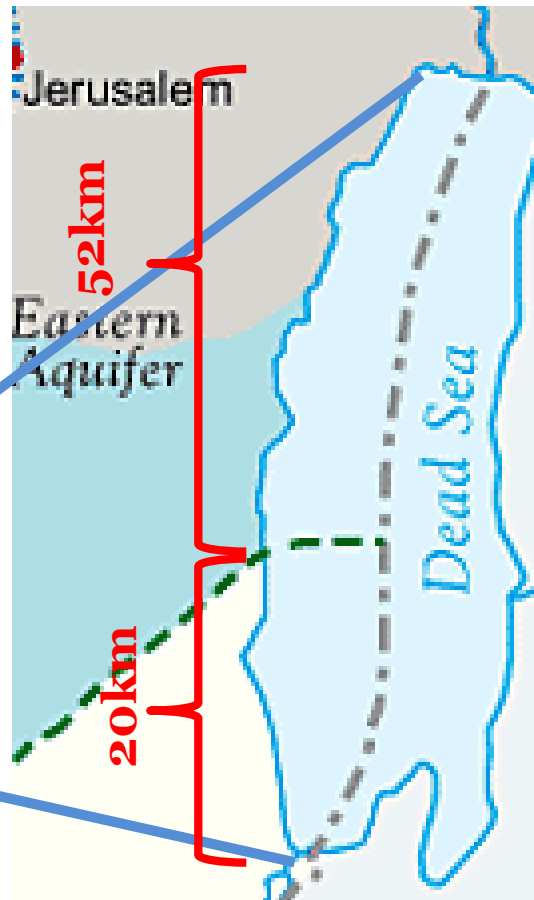
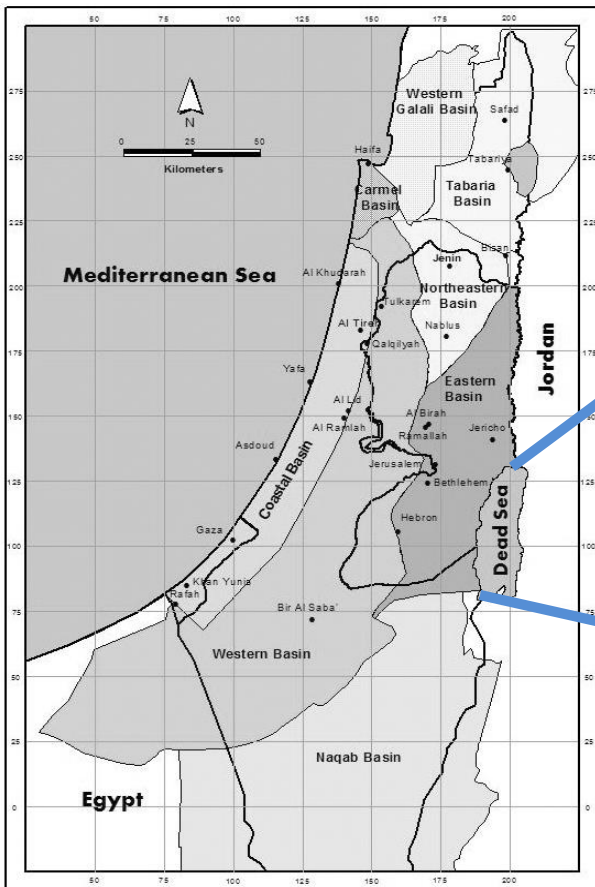
Upper Part of Jordan River



Lower Part of Jordan River



3- Dead Sea

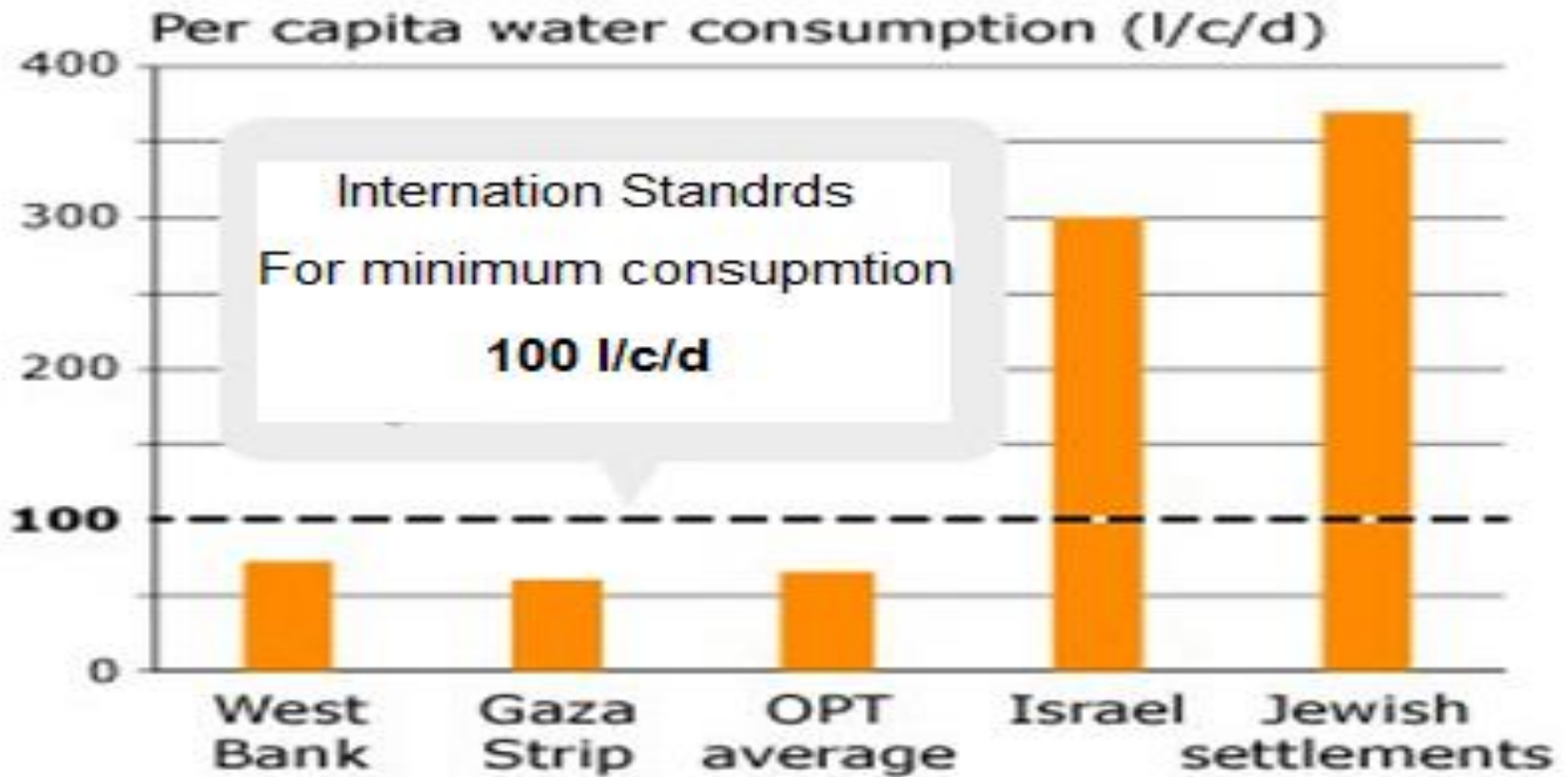


52 km length of Palestinian Shoreline ..**WITHOUT ACCESS**

! Palestinian are purchasing their water from Israeli Mekorot Company.....around 70 MCM/y with price of 0.8-1.0 \$ per each cubic meter.

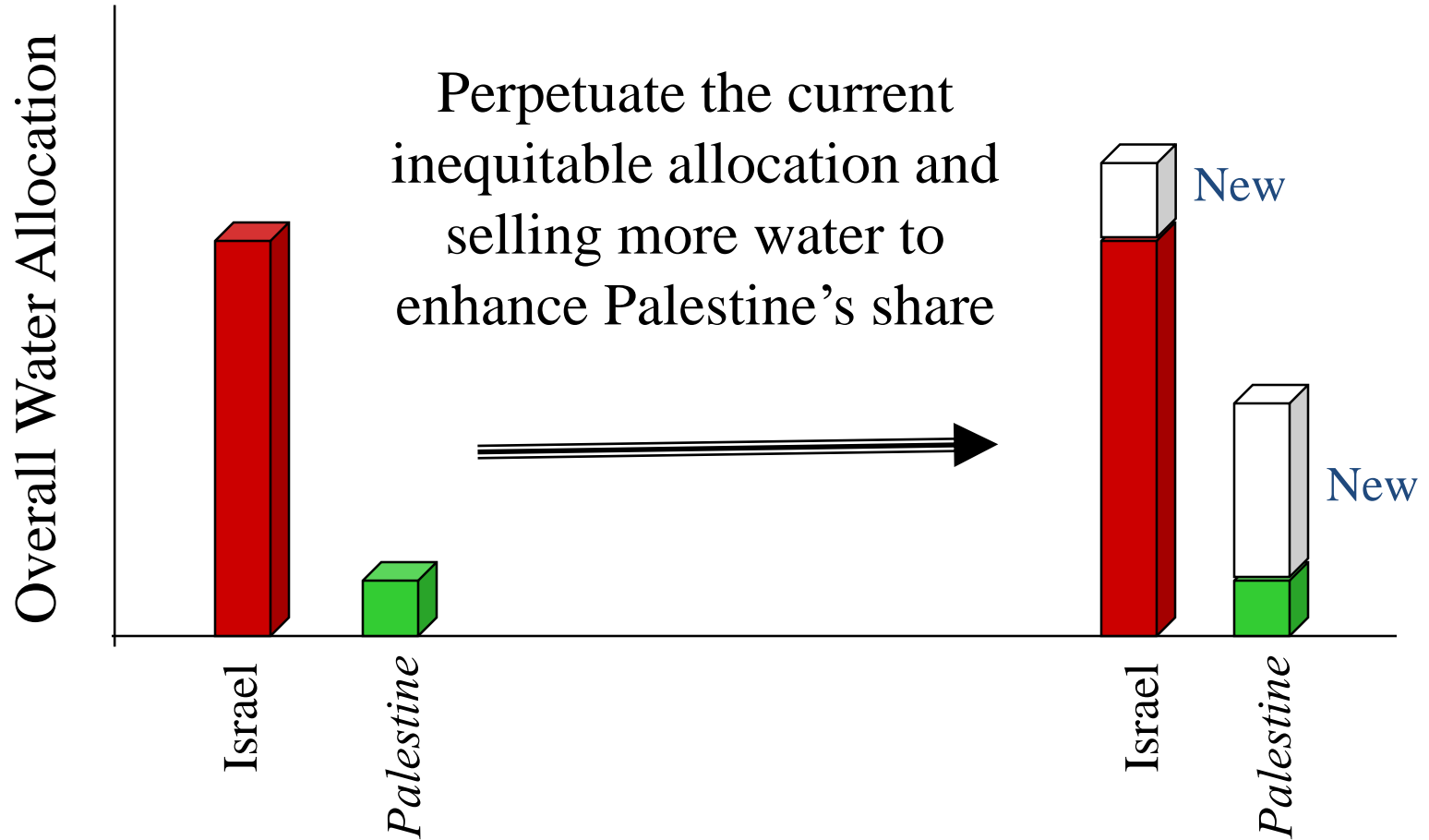


Consumption of water by Palestinians and Israelis



This is not “equitable and reasonable” by any mean

The Israeli Solution:




Key Messages

1. The equitable and reasonable utilization of shared water resources is essential for a viable Palestinian state.
2. The Interim water allocations for Palestinians of Oslo 1995 are highly **inequitable and unreasonable**.
3. The modality of JWC under occupation is NOT an example of regional cooperation.

Equitable Sharing of Water Resources

To be viable, Palestine must obtain its share of fresh water based on IWL with full accessibility.

- UN Convention on law of Non-navigational Uses of International Watercourses (1997)
 - Art. 5 Equitable and Reasonable Utilization
 - **Art. 6 Factors in Determining ERU**
- The Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (UNECE Water Convention or Helsinki Rules (1966))
- DA on the law of Transboundary Aquifers-2008



Major factors which could be considered in determining reasonable and equitable use of shared water, but not limited to:

- the geography and the area of the basin;
- the hydrology and climate of the basin including climate,
- the economic and social needs of each basin state;
- the population dependent on the basin waters;
- the availability of other resources;
- the past & current utilizations of the waters of the basin



Thank You

deeb_saleh2003@yahoo.com