

Introductory Bio for Dr. Sharon B. Megdal



Sharon B. Megdal is Director of The University of Arizona Water Resources Research Center (WRRC), an Extension and research unit in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. Her work focuses on water policy and water resources management challenges and solutions, on which she writes and frequently speaks. She also holds the titles Professor and Specialist, Department Soil, Water, and Environmental Science, C.W. & Modene Neely Endowed Professor, and Distinguished Outreach Professor. She serves as Director of the Water Sustainability Program and Co-Director of The University of Arizona Water, Environmental and Energy Solutions Program, both of which are funded by the Technology Research Initiative Fund (TRIF).

Dr. Megdal, whose geographic scope of work ranges from local to international, places particular emphasis on how to achieve desired policy objectives in terms of institutional structures and possible changes to them. Current projects include: comparative evaluation of water management, policy, and governance in growing, water-scarce regions; groundwater management and governance; groundwater recharge; and transboundary aquifer assessment. She is the lead editor of the book, *Shared Borders, Shared Waters: Israeli-Palestinian and Colorado River Basin Water Challenges*. She also served as lead guest editor for a special issue of the journal *Water*, entitled "Policy and Economics of Managed Aquifer Recharge and Water Banking". She writes a regular water policy column for the WRRC newsletter. Current and all past columns can be found at <http://wrrc.arizona.edu/sharon-b-megdal>. Dr. Megdal teaches the multi-disciplinary graduate course Arizona Water Policy. She serves as President of the National Institutes for Water Resources (NIWR) and is a member of the board of the Universities Council on Water Resources (UCOWR), and the Western Rural Development Center. In November 2014, Dr. Megdal was elected to a second six-year term on the Central Arizona Water Conservation District Board of Directors, where she is responsible for the policies, rates and taxes associated with delivering Colorado River water through the Central Arizona Project. Dr. Megdal has served on numerous Arizona boards and commissions, including the Arizona Corporation Commission, the State Transportation Board and the Arizona Medical Board. She holds a Ph.D. degree in Economics from Princeton University.

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