

	Title: Women Empowerment Toward Treated Waste Water Reuse: Reconnect Practical and Strategic Woman Needs in Palestinian Rural Area
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Abstract:

The issue of reuse of treated wastewater is suggested as a solution that might partially resolve the global and domestic water crisis as well as protecting the environment and the food security. But the reuse of treated wastewater is still being faced with stiff social resistance that necessitates the research in the social aspects in order to identify the reasons for this resistance and its ties to the public empowerment and especially the women’s empowerment.

Women’s empowerment affects and is affected by the community’s social, political, economic and environmental conditions where the topic of women’s empowerment and attempting to measure it in many studies is being introduced in order to understand the society’s context or to implement developmental projects . Yet, there has not been any study on the effect of the women’s empowerment on the acceptance of the reuse of the treated wastewater in the Palestinian rural areas.

The main objective of this thesis is the effect of the women’s empowerment in the Palestinian rural areas on the acceptance of wastewater treatment projects and the reuse of it and investigating the affect of women’s training in the issues of reuse of treated wastewater on their acceptance of reuse of that treated water.

This study has been conducted in two phases. The first phase was on the institutional level where it concentrated on the issue of reuse of treated wastewater in the agendas of the environmental institutions that operates in Palestine.

The second phase is a study conducted on a sample of 120 women divided into two groups of 60. The impact of 10 days of training on wastewater and the reuse of treated wastewater has been studied through a questionnaire containing two variables: “empowerment” and “the acceptance of the reuse of the treated wastewater”. The questionnaire has been filled out before and after training program. The statistical analysis method (SPSS) has been used to obtain the results.

The percentage of women who accepted the reuse of treated wastewater has increased through the increase of the arithmetic mean after the training program. The percentage of women who accepted the reuse of the treated wastewater has risen from 47% before the training program to 55% of the group under study after the training program. Whereas it remain 46% in the controlled group. The relation between women’s empowerment and the acceptance of the reuse if treated wastewater has been studied as well. Person’s correlation coefficient between the empowered women and the acceptance of the reuse of the treated wastewater was 0.598 which indicates a relationship which is higher than average between the two variables notably that this coefficient has increased to 0.797

Lastly, we can say that the empowerment of women has an effective and active role in the woman’s acceptance of the reuse of the treated wastewater if the women are practical and strategic needs have been connected and if there has been an attempt to meet these needs simultaneously.