

## **Exploring opportunities of rain water harvesting in the urban areas of Pakistan**

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Pakistan is facing severe water crisis for the last few decades. The climate change, regarded one of the main reasons for such crises globally, has also affected the local weather in Pakistan to a considerable extent. The changes in the pattern of rainfall and its distribution, governed again by climatic change, have led to a severe water shortage in the urban areas of Pakistan. The recent draught led to the depletion of ground water and there is a tendency of continuous drop of the aquifer in the major cities, like Karachi, Lahore, Islamabad and Peshawar. To overcome the challenges of water scarcity in the country, water conservation strategies are needed to be implemented at grass root levels. Rain water harvesting in the urban areas of Pakistan is one of the emerging opportunities available for harnessing the water for re-use. In this paper the opportunities of rain water harvesting in urban areas have been discussed with special reference to Pakistan. It has been shown that if harvested for re-use, the rainwater can provide some long term solution for the water crisis in these cities.