

آبِ بیتی

Virtual Seminar Series

Centre for Water Informatics and Technology (WIT)

Life in The New Normal: The Water and Agriculture Sectors in Pakistan

April 27, 2020 | 3 – 4 pm

In conversation with Mr. Muhammad Mohsin Khan Laghari, Provincial Minister of Punjab for Irrigation, and Dr. Abubakr Muhammad, Executive Director, Centre for Water Informatics and Technology (WIT), LUMS, we find out how academia and policymakers are operating in the this time of COVID-19. University operations are stalled around the globe as most of academia is struggling to rewire itself for online learning. Researchers have minimal access to their labs and field work is increasingly becoming difficult. While the world is focused on dealing with the pandemic, the challenges of climate change, water security, food security and other aspects of public health have not disappeared. The discussion will focus on challenges of this time and take a look at how to pick up again as we get back to the normal. The session will be moderated by Dr. Fozia Parveen, Post-doctoral Fellow and Faculty at WIT.



Mr. Muhammad Mohsin Khan Laghari received his early education from Aitchison College Lahore, and attended the University of Oklahoma in the USA. Later, he obtained a Certification in Financial Markets from the Securities Institute of Australia and also has a Post Graduate Diploma in Applied Economics from the University of the Punjab. He has worked with the world's leading financial information and information technology companies before being elected to the Provincial Assembly of the Punjab in 2003. He is currently the Provincial Minister of Punjab for Irrigation.



Dr. Abubakr Muhammad is an Associate Professor and Chair of Electrical Engineering, the Founding Director of the Centre for Water Informatics and Technology, and the lead for NCRA National Agricultural Robotics Lab at LUMS. He received his PhD in Electrical Engineering in 2005 from Georgia Institute of Technology, USA winning an institute-wide best PhD Dissertation Award. He received master's degrees in Mathematics and Electrical Engineering from Georgia Tech and was a postdoctoral researcher at the University of Pennsylvania and McGill University. Since 2008, his research group at LUMS is doing applied research in robotics, automation and AI with applications to water, agriculture, and environmental issues. He serves on various advisory panels to government agencies and industry in Pakistan on water, climate and agricultural policy, especially on the use of emerging digital technologies for these sectors.



Dr. Fozia Parveen is a Postdoctoral Fellow and an Adjunct Faculty at the Centre for Water Informatics and Technology at LUMS. Prior to this, she completed her DPhil in Engineering Science from the University of Oxford. She completed her BS and MS degree's in Environmental Sciences from Fatima Jinnah Women University and National University of Science and Technology, respectively. Dr. Parveen's lab research has focused on water and wastewater treatment using advanced membrane technologies, its microbiology and application. At WIT she is looking at aquatic microplastic pollution and reducing plastic pollution from the environment.

Registration: You can watch this session live on WIT's Facebook Page <https://web.facebook.com/wit.lums/> and the LUMS Facebook page <https://web.facebook.com/lahoreuniversityofmanagementsciences/> as well.