

Advances in Social Justice and Resiliency in Water Resources

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Risks posed by flooding, drought, water availability, poor water quality, and climate change tend to disproportionately affect women and low-income, rural, indigenous, and racially marginalized communities. Yet, these voices are often omitted from research and decision-making processes. This talk will present a case study from Arequipa, Peru, a microcosm of water issues including urbanization, migration, mining and industry, water scarcity, and uncertainty under a changing climate. Other related studies will be presented to demonstrate the complexity of balancing the needs of diverse groups when there is increasingly less water. Overall, this talk encourages people to ask where and how water should be allocated in a drying climate to ensure a just and equitable future.

Abigail is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Crop and Soil Sciences and is the statewide Extension Soil Water Quality Specialist at Oregon State University. Prior to starting her current position, she was a postdoctoral researcher in the Department of Biological and Agricultural Engineering at Purdue University and a member of the Arequipa Nexus Institute, a partnership between Purdue and Universidad Nacional de San Agustin in Peru. She has worked locally and internationally on the effects of land management practices on soil and water quality, and she is broadly interested in developing and implementing practices that promote agricultural productivity while maintaining environmental health. In her extension role, she is interested in learning from and working alongside Oregon's agricultural community to co-create adaptive, lasting, and sustainable agricultural practices.

