

Ad Duheisha Camp Profile



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Background

This booklet is part of a series of booklets, which contain compiled information about each city, town, and village in Bethlehem Governorate. These booklets came as a result of a comprehensive study of all localities in Bethlehem Governorate, which aims at depicting the overall living conditions in the governorate and presenting developmental plans to assist in developing the livelihood of the population in the area. It was accomplished through the "Village Profiles and Azahar Needs Assessment," the project funded by the Spanish Agency for International Cooperation for Development (AECID) and the Azahar Program.

The "Village Profiles and Azahar Needs Assessment" was designed to study, investigate, analyze and document the socio-economic conditions and the needed programs and activities to mitigate the impact of the current unsecure political, economic and social conditions in Bethlehem Governorate with particular focus on the Azahar program objectives and activities concerning water, environment, and agriculture.

The project's objectives are to survey, analyze, and document the available natural, human, socioeconomic and environmental resources, and the existing limitations and needs assessment for the development of the rural and marginalized areas in Bethlehem Governorate. In addition, the project aims at preparing strategic developmental programs and activities to mitigate the impact of the current political, social, and economic instability with the focus on the agricultural sector.

All locality profiles in Arabic and English are available online at <http://proxy.arij.org/vprofile>.

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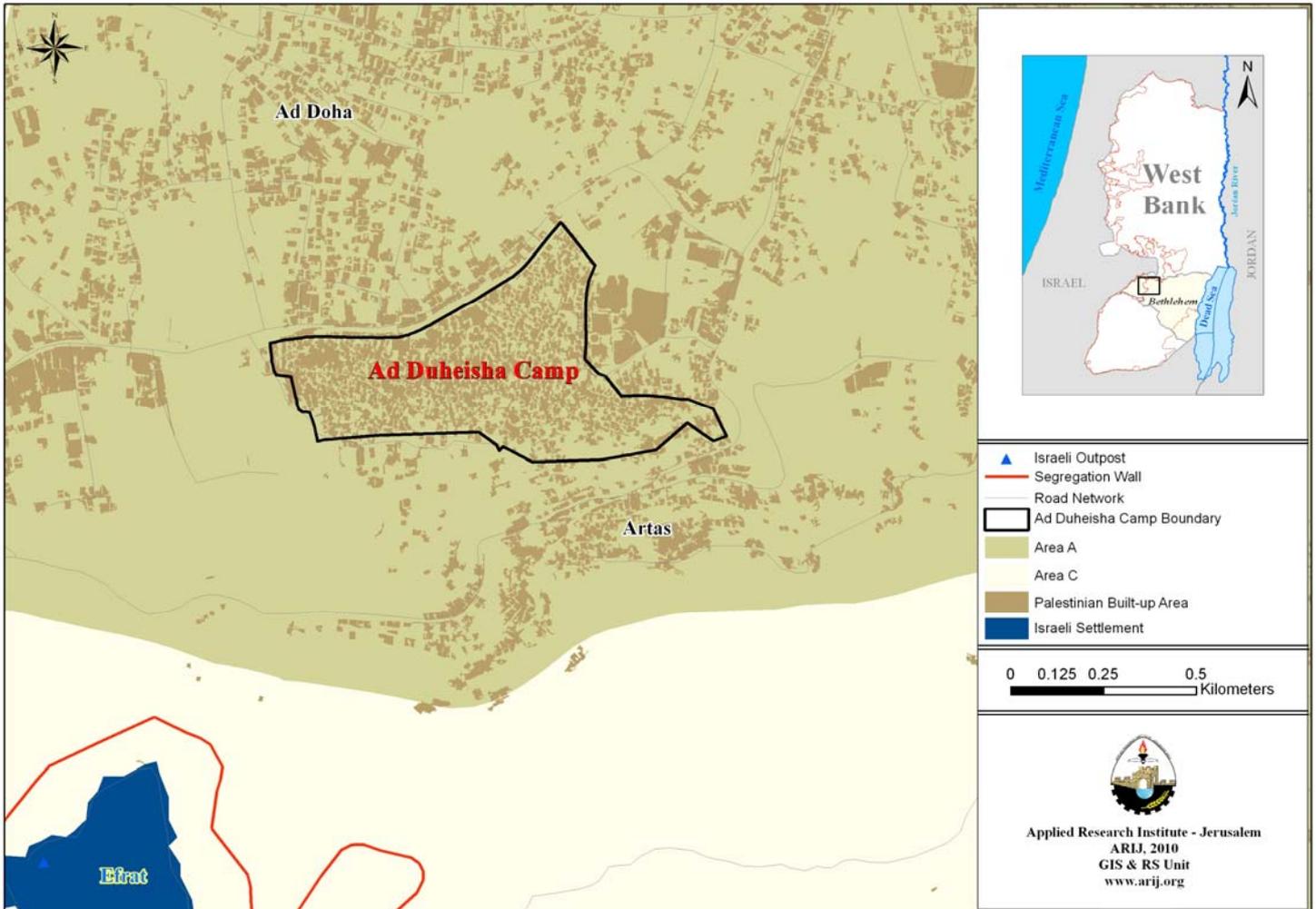
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Ad Duheisha Camp Profile

Location and Physical Characteristics

Ad Duheisha is a Palestinian camp in Bethlehem Governorate located 2.2km (horizontal distance) south-west of Bethlehem City. Ad Duheisha is bordered by Bethlehem city to the east and north, Ad Doha city to the west, and Artas village to the south (See map 1).

Map 1: Ad Duheisha location and borders



Ad Duheisha is located at an altitude of 790m above sea level with a mean annual rainfall of 589mm. The average annual temperature is 16° C, and the average annual humidity is about 60.6 percent (ARIJ GIS).

Since 1997, Ad Duheisha has been governed by a service committee which is currently administrated by seven members appointed by the Palestinian Authority. The committee has a permanent headquarters which it rents and a vehicle to collect solid waste which is funded by the UNRWA.

It is the responsibility of the service committee to provide a number of services to the residents of Ad Duheisha, including:

1. Infrastructure services such as water and electricity.
2. Implementation of projects and case studies for the camp.

History

The name Ad Duheisha came in relation to the land where the camp was established, as this area was full with trees, and according to the Egyptian language, it was called Heisha, which later was twisted into Duheisha.

Ad Duheisha camp dates back to 1949, and its residents originate from more than 46 villages from Jerusalem.

Photo of Ad Duheisha Camp

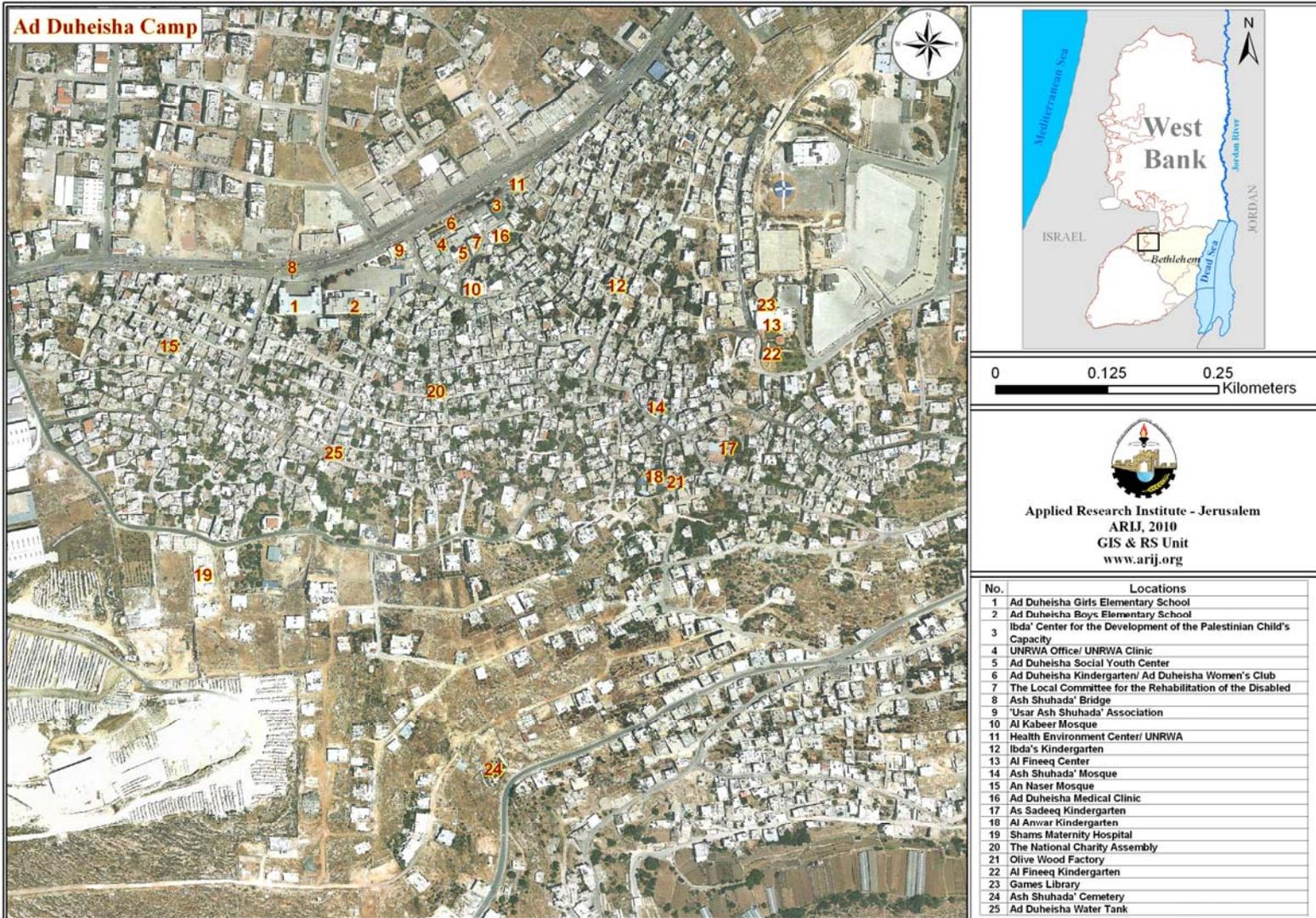


Religious and Archaeological Sites

In terms of religious establishments, there are three mosques in Ad Duheisha camp: An Naser Mosque, Ash Shuhada' Mosque, and Al Kabeer Mosque.

There are no archaeological sites in the Camp (See map 2).

Map 2: Main locations in Ad Duheisha Camp



Population

According to the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS), the total population of Ad Duheisha in 2007 was 8,736; of whom 4,426 are males and 4,310 are females. There are 1,698 households living in 1,905 housing units.

Age Groups and Gender

The General Census of Population and Housing carried out by PCBS in 2007 showed the distribution of age groups in Ad Duheisha is as follows: 39.4 percent are less than 15 years, 55.5 percent are between 15 - 64 years, and 3.7 percent are 65 years and older. Data also showed that the sex ratio of males to females in the camp is 102.7:100, meaning that males constitute 50.7 percent of the population, and females constitute 49.3 percent of the population.

Families

The inhabitants of Ad Duheisha camp are composed of several families, mainly: As Sarasra, Fararjah, Al Khmoor, Abu 'Elyya, Az Zaghari, Ramadan, Al Lahham, Hammash, and Da'amsah.

Education

According to the results of the PCBS Population, Housing and Establishment Census-2007, the illiteracy rate among Ad Duheisha camp population is about 5.7 percent, of whom 73.3 percent are females. Of the literate population, 11.3 percent can read and write, 22.2 percent had elementary education, 35.7 percent had preparatory education, 17.3 percent had secondary education, and 13.5 percent completed higher education. Table 1, shows the educational level in the camp of Ad Duheisha camp, by sex, and educational attainment in 2007.

Sex	Illiterate	Can read & write	Elementary	Preparatory	Secondary	Associate Diploma	Bachelor	Higher Diploma	Master	PhD	Total
M	92	311	664	1085	503	168	169	16	23	3	3037
F	253	340	608	962	485	167	210	11	10	-	3049
T	345	651	1272	2047	988	335	379	27	33	3	6086

Source: PCBS, 2009. Population, Housing and Establishment Census-2007, Final Results

In regards to the basic and secondary education institutions and schools in Ad Duheisha in the academic year 2008/2009, there are two schools in the camp; one for boys and one for girls, both run by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian Refugees (UNRWA) (Table 2).

In Ad Duheisha there is a total number of 1780 students; 54 teachers, and 49 classes (Directorate of Education in Bethlehem, 2009). It should be noted here that the average number of students per class is approximately 33, while the average number of students per class is approximately 37.

School Name	Supervising Authority	Sex
Ad Duheisha Boys Elementary School	UNRWA	Male
Ad Duheisha Girls Elementary Second School		Female
Source: Directorate of Education in Bethlehem, 2009		

Due to the lack of secondary educational institutions in the camp, some students head to schools in the neighboring villages, such as Bethlehem, Beit Jala, Ad Doha, and Artas, in order to complete their secondary education.

Furthermore, there are six kindergartens in Ad Duheisha camp; four of which are run by a charitable society and two by a private body, with a total number of 480 children. Table 3 shows the names of kindergartens in Ad Duheisha camp and their supervising authority.

Kindergarten Name	Number of Children	Supervising Authority
Ad Duheisha Kindergarten	63	private
Al Anwar Kindergarten	90	
As Sadeeq Kindergarten	120	Charitable Society
Hiwar Kindergarten	32	
'Ebda' Kindergarten	95	
Al Fineeq Kindergarten	80	
Source: Ad Duheisha Camp Committee, 2010		

The educational sector in Ad Duheisha camp faces some obstacles and problems, including:

1. The small number of schools in comparison with the number of students, causing overcrowded classrooms.
2. Shortage of teaching staff in schools.
3. The lack of secondary schools in the camp.
4. Harassment by the Israeli occupation.

Health Status

Ad Duheisha camp has certain health facilities; such as a health center run by the UNRWA, which has a physician's clinic, a dental clinic, a radiology center, a laboratory for medical analysis, a motherhood and childhood center, a pharmacy, and a physiotherapy center. There is also a health center in the camp run by a charitable society which has a physician's clinic, a dental clinic, a radiology center, a laboratory for medical analysis, motherhood and childhood center, a pharmacy, and a physiotherapy center, in addition to a private dental clinic. In emergency cases, residents of Ad Duheisha camp use Bethlehem hospitals and health centers, such as: Beit Jala Governmental Hospital (Al Hussein), which is about 4km from the camp, and Al Yamamah hospital in Al Khader city, which is about 2km from the camp.

The health center in Ad Duheisha camp faces several obstacles, mainly:

- 1- Lack of doctors in the health center.
- 2- Insufficient supply of important medications in the health center.
- 3- Lack of modern medical equipment necessary to conduct laboratory tests and X-rays.

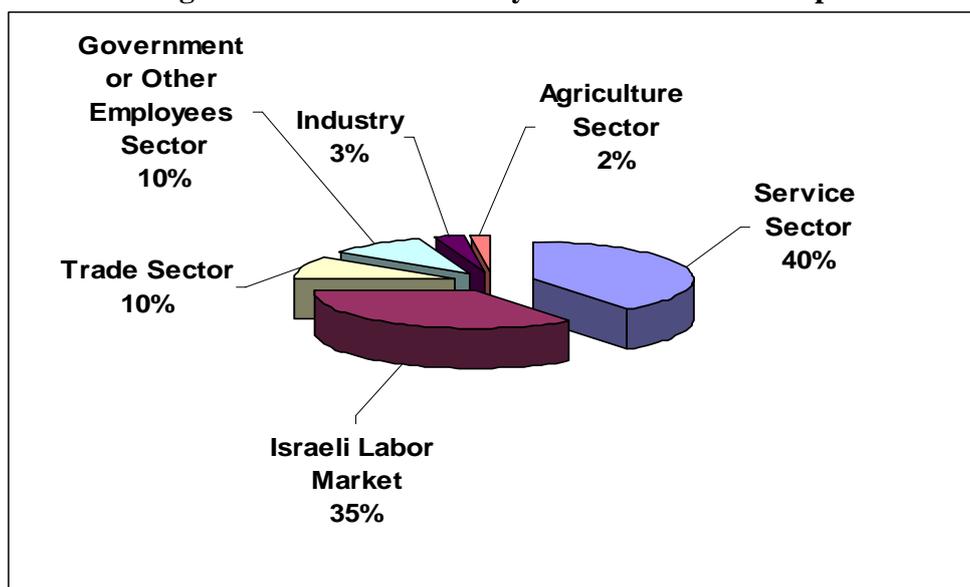
Economic Activities

The economy in Ad Duheisha camp is dependent on several economic sectors, mainly: the service sector, which absorbs 40 percent of the camp workforce, and the Israeli labor market, which absorbs 35 percent of the camp workforce (See Figure1).

The results of a field survey for the distribution of labor by economic activity in Ad Duheisha camp are the following:

- Services Sector (40%)
- Israeli Labor Market (35%)
- Government or Other Employees Sector (10%)
- Trade Sector (10%)
- Industry (3%)
- Agriculture Sector (2%)

Figure 1: Economic Activity in Ad Duheisha Camp



In regards to economic and industrial activities in Ad Duheisha camp, they are few, mainly; olive wood factories, hand sewing and embroidery, 17 butcheries, 6 bakeries, 20 groceries, 12 different service stores, 15 different workshops (blacksmith, carpentry, etc), in addition to 50 grocery stores. However, the unemployment rate in Ad Duheisha camp has reached about 40 percent.

Labor Force

According to the PCBS Population, Housing and Establishment Census-2007, 35.6 percent of Ad Duheisha camp population was economically active, of whom 81.5 percent were employed, 64.2 percent were not economically active, 56.1 percent were students, and 31.2 percent were housekeepers. (See table 4)

SEX	Economically Active				Not Economically Active						Total
	Employed	Currently Unemployed	Unemployed (Never worked)	Total	Students	House-keeping	Unable to work	Not working & Not looking for work	Other	Total	
M	1,346	215	121	1,682	1,065	6	187	15	77	1,350	3,037
F	422	28	37	487	1,126	1,213	192	5	23	2,559	3,049
T	1,768	243	158	2,169	2,191	1,219	379	20	100	3,909	6,086

Source: PCBS, March 2009. Population, Housing and Establishment Census-2007, Final Results

Agricultural Sector

Ad Duheisha camp contains some agricultural lands, where a very small number of the camp population works in the agricultural fields and herds animals (See table 5 and map 3).

Table 5: Land Use in Ad Duheisha camp (dunum)

Total Area	Built up Area	Arable Land (158)					Area of Industrial, Commercial & Transport Unit	Area of Settlements and Military Bases
		Seasonal Crops	Permanent Crops	Greenhouses	Forests	Open Spaces and Rangelands		
352	185	8	150	0	0	0	9	0

Source: GIS unit – ARIJ, 2008

Map 3: Land use/land cover and Segregation Wall in Ad Duheisha Camp

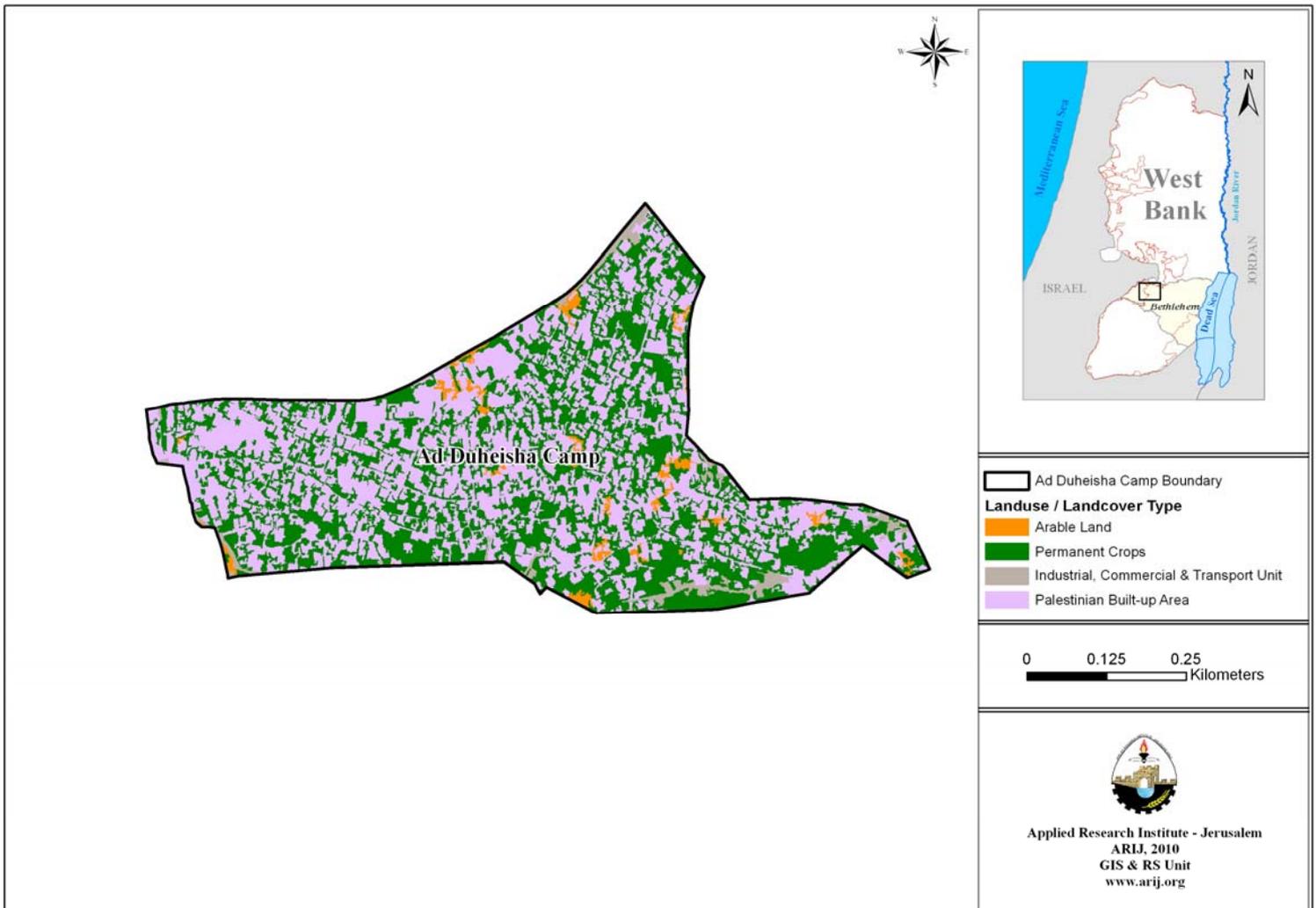


Table 6 shows the different types of rain-fed and irrigated open-cultivated vegetables in Ad Duheisha camp. The most common crop cultivated within this area is tomato.

Fruity vegetables		Leafy vegetable		Green legumes		Bulbs		Other vegetables		Total area	
RF	Irr.	RF	Irr.	RF	Irr.	RF	Irr.	RF	Irr.	RF	Irr.
18	15	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	4	18	20

Rf: Rain-fed, Irr: Irrigated

Source: Palestinian Ministry of Agriculture, 2007

The field survey shows that some of the residents in Ad Duheisha camp are rearing and keeping domestic animals such as sheep and goats (See Table 7).

Cows*	Sheep	Goats	Camels	Horses	Donkeys	Mules	Broilers	Layers	Bee Hives
0	201	206	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

*Including cows, bull calves, heifer calves and bulls

Source: Palestinian Ministry of Agriculture, 2007

Institutions and Services

Ad Duheisha camp has a number of local institutions and associations that provide services to various segments of society: children, youth, and women. The services are in the areas of culture, sports and others, including: (Ad Duheisha Camp Committee, 2010)

- **People's Committee for Services:** Founded in 1997 by the Palestinian Liberation Organization with the goal of taking care of all the issues in the camp and providing all kinds of services to its population.
- **Ibda' Center:** Founded in 1994 by a public body and is specialized in theatrical and artistic training and cultural activities.
- **Al Fineeq Center:** Founded in 1999 as a cultural and recreational center.
- **The Women Center:** Founded in 1994 by the UNRWA with the goal of taking care of all women's issues and affairs.
- **The National Society:** Founded in 2004 in order to provide health services to the camp residents.
- **Local Committee for the Rehabilitation of the Disabled:** Founded in 1993, and is interested in the people with special needs issues, as it provides them educational and psychological services.

Infrastructure and Natural Resources

Electricity and Telecommunication Services:

Ad Duheisha camp has been connected to a public electricity network since 1972; served by Jerusalem Electricity Company, which is the main source of electricity in the camp. Approximately 99.8 percent of the housing units in the camp are connected to the network, and 0.1 percent are dependent on private generators for electricity, while the source of electricity is unknown for the remaining units (0.1%) (Central Bureau of Statistics, 2007).

Furthermore, Ad Duheisha camp is connected to a telecommunication network and approximately 53.7 percent of the housing units within the camp boundaries are connected to phone lines.

Transportation Services:

Private cars, taxis, and buses are the main means of transportation in Ad Duheisha camp. As for the road network in the camp; there is a main road which is 1km paved and in bad condition, and as for the secondary roads; they all are unpaved roads (Ad Duheisha Camp Committee, 2010).

Water Resources:

Ad Duheisha camp is provided with water by Bethlehem Water Authority through the public water network established in 1969, and about 99.3 percent of the housing units are connected to the water network, 0.1 percent are dependent on rainwater harvesting cisterns, 0.1 percent are dependent on tanks, and 0.3 are dependent on other water resources, while the source of water supply is unknown for the remaining units (0.1%) (PCBS, 2007). The quantity of water supplied to Ad Duheisha camp in 2008 was approximately 300,000 cubic meters/year, therefore the estimated rate of water supply per capita is about 95 liters/day (Ad Duheisha Camp Committee, 2010).

Here it should be noted that many Ad Duheisha camp citizens do not in fact consume this amount of water due to water losses, which are about 39 percent. The losses happen at the main source, major transport lines, distribution network, and at the household level (PWA, 2008), thus the rate of water consumption per capita in Ad Duheisha camp is 58 liters per day. This is a low rate compared with the minimum quantity proposed by the World Health Organization, which is 100 liters per capita per day. Moreover, Ad Duheisha camp has a public water reservoir with a capacity of 10 thousands cubic meters.

Sanitation:

Ad Duheisha camp has a public sewage network that is used as the main means for wastewater disposal. The end of the network is connected to Bethlehem private sewage network, which itself is connected to Beit Sahour private sewage network, which is

eventually connected to the pumping station north of Beit Sahour city "Hilwa tomb pumping station", where waste water is pumped, through it, to Wadi an Nar. According to PCBS's Population and Housing Census in 2007 and PWA data, the majority of Ad Duheisha camp housing units (94%) use the public sewage network for wastewater disposal, 5.7 percent use cesspits for wastewater disposal, and 0.2 percent have no means for wastewater collection and disposal, while the mean of wastewater disposal is unknown for the remaining units (0.2%).

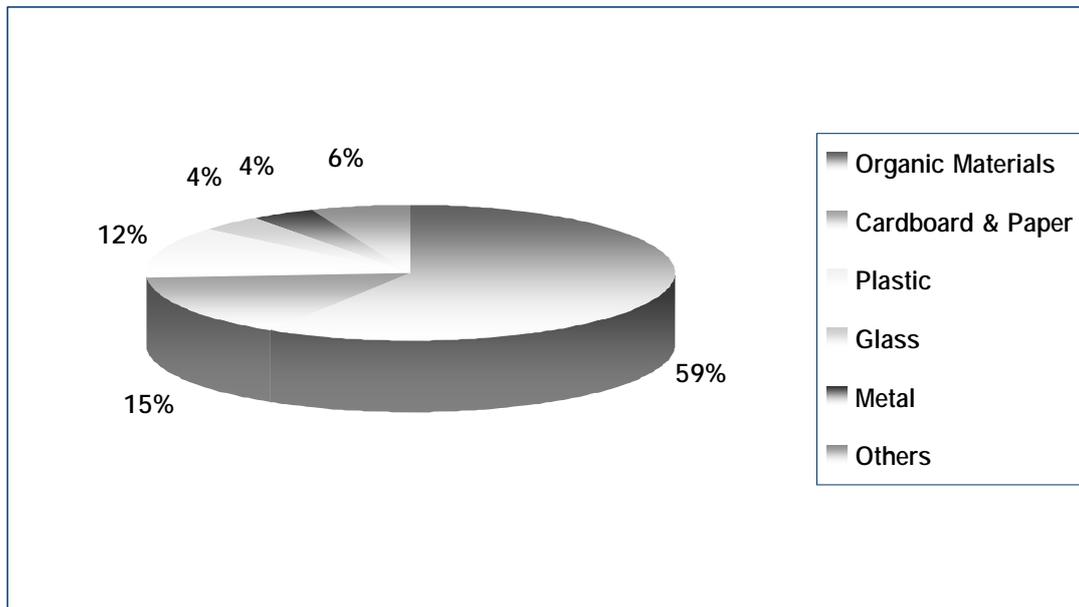
Based on the estimated daily per capita water consumption, the estimated amount of wastewater generated per day is approximately 402 cubic meters, or 150,000 cubic meters annually. At the individual level in the camp, it is estimated that the per capita wastewater generation is approximately 46 liters per day.

Solid Waste Management:

The United Nations Relief and Work Agency for the Palestinian Refugees-UNRWA is considered the official body responsible for managing solid waste, i.e. solid waste collection and disposal generated from the citizens and establishments in Ad Duheisha camp, which is currently represented by solid waste collection and disposal.

Most of the population in Ad Duheisha camp benefits from the solid waste services, where waste is collected from households, institutions, shops, and public squares in plastic bags and then transferred to 18 containers, with a capacity of 4 cubic meters each, spread throughout the neighborhoods. The solid waste is collected from the containers once a day and transported to Yatta dumping site in Hebron Governorate, 30km from the camp. The common method for solid waste treatment in the dumping site is setting waste on fire or sometimes burying it. It should be mentioned here that household hazardous waste, industrial, and commercial solid waste is collected with other non-hazardous municipal waste and dumped into the same landfill with the absence of any special system for separation and/or collection. The largest volume of solid waste is household waste which makes up around 45-50 percent of total capacity of solid waste.

The daily per capita rate of solid waste production in Ad Duheisha camp is 0.7kg, thus the estimated amount of solid waste produced per day from the Ad Duheisha camp residents is nearly 6115kg, or 2230 tons per year. The main component of household solid waste is composed of organic materials, followed by paper and cardboard, and then by plastic, as shown in Figure 2 below.

Figure 2: The components of the household solid waste produced

Environmental Conditions

Like other camp and villages in the governorate, Ad Duheisha camp experiences several environmental problems which must be addressed and solved; these problems can be identified as follows:

Water Crisis:

Water is cut off for long periods of time in summer in several neighborhoods of the camp for several reasons:

- (1) Israeli domination over Palestinian water resources; which makes PWA dependent largely on water purchase from the Israeli company Mecerot to supply the Palestinian cities and villages, representing an obstacle in the organization of water pumping and distribution among populations. PWA distributes water to various areas at an interval-basis because the amount of water available is not sufficient for everyone at the same time.
- (2) High rate of water losses, because the water network is old, and in need of rehabilitation and renovation.
- (3) The lack of domestic rainwater harvesting cisterns and reservoirs.

Wastewater Management:

Moreover, the untreated wastewater collected from the sewage network in the camp is disposed of in open areas (Wadi an Nar) without taking into account any environmental and/or health damages. The absence of a public sewage network in some neighborhoods, thus the use of cesspits for the disposal of wastewater, by its residents, and the discharge of wastewater in the streets, because they cannot afford the high cost of sewage tankers, causes environmental and health problems, and the spread of epidemics and diseases inside these neighborhoods. Furthermore, the use of cesspits pollutes the groundwater, because most of the cesspits are built without lining, to facilitate the entry of wastewater into the ground thus, avoiding the use of sewage tankers from time to time.

Solid Waste Management:

The lack of a central sanitary landfill to serve Ad Duheisha camp and the other communities in the governorate is due mainly to the obstacles created by the Israeli authorities for local and national institutions, like granting licenses to establish such a landfill, because the appropriate land is within Area C, under the Israeli control. In addition, the implementation of such projects depends on funding from donor countries. Thus, the lack of a sanitary landfill is a hazard risk for the health, and a source of pollution to the groundwater and soil through the leachate produced from the solid waste, and it produces bad odors and distortion of the landscape. It should be noted here that a sanitary landfill is being under construction, at the time, in Al Maniya area, south of Bethlehem governorate, to serve Bethlehem and Hebron governorates

It should be noted that solid waste accumulates outside the containers and in the streets, due to the inefficiency of the solid waste collection service as one vehicle is not enough to collect and transfer all the waste.

There is an absence of a system in the village and the governorate in general that separates hazardous waste from non-hazardous waste, consequently hazardous solid waste is collected with non-hazardous waste and transported to Yatta landfill in Hebron Governorate for disposal by burial.

Other problems:

- The limiting role of Ad Duheisha camp people's committee, like other committees, councils and municipalities, in providing only certain services, without considering other various aspects for development.

Development Plans and Projects

Implemented Projects

Ad Duheisha camp committee has implemented several development projects in Ad Duheisha camp during the years 2008 to 2009, as shown in Table 8.

Name of the Project	Type	Year	Donor
Renovating the electricity network	Infrastructure	2008	Electricity Company
Renovating the sewage network	Infrastructure	Under construction	UNRWA

Source: Ad Duheisha Camp Committee, 2010

Proposed Projects

Ad Duheisha camp committee, in cooperation with the civil society organizations in the camp and the camp residents, looks forward to the implementation of several projects in the coming years. The project ideas were developed during the PRA workshop that was conducted by ARIJ staff in the camp. The projects are as follows, in order of priority, from the viewpoint of the participants in the workshop:

1. Providing awareness programs for citizens in order to preserve the public interests and activate women's roles in society.
2. Providing job opportunities for the unemployed and new graduates.
3. Rehabilitation of the water, sewage, and electricity networks in the camp and pumping the water continuously.
4. Providing street lights in the camp, maintaining the public electricity network, and paving the roads.
5. Increasing the educational institutions' capacity to accommodate students.
6. Activating all institutions in the camp through a variety of programs.
7. Providing open and recreational areas for children and taking advantage of abandoned sites for the public interest.
8. Restoration of houses which are not qualified for housing.
9. Dealing with the problem of stray animals and wild dogs.

Locality Development Priorities and Needs

Ad Duheisha camp suffers from a shortage of significant infrastructure and services. Table 9 shows the development priorities and needs in the camp, according to the camp committee's point of view (Ad Duheisha Camp Committee, 2010):

No.	Sector	Strongly Needed	Needed	Not a Priority	Notes
Infrastructural Needs					
1	Opening and Pavement of Roads	*			3.5km*
2	Rehabilitation of Old Water Networks	*			
3	Extending the Water Network to Cover New Built up Areas			*	
4	Construction of New Water Networks	*			
5	Rehabilitation/ Construction of New Wells or Springs			*	
6	Construction of Water Reservoirs			*	
7	Construction of a Sewage Disposal Network	*			2km
8	Construction of a New Electricity Network		*		4km
9	Providing Containers for Solid Waste Collection			*	
10	Providing Vehicles for Collecting Solid Waste	*			1
11	Providing a Sanitary Landfill	*			
Health Needs					
1	Building of New Clinics or Health Care Centres	*			1 clinic
2	Rehabilitation of Old Clinics or Health Care Centres	*			2 clinics
3	Purchasing of Medical Equipment and Tools	*			
Educational Needs					
1	Building of New Schools	*			elementary & secondary
2	Rehabilitation of Old Schools	*			elementary
3	Purchasing of New Equipment for Schools	*			elementary schools
Agriculture Needs					
1	Rehabilitation of Agricultural Lands			*	
2	Building Rainwater Harvesting Cisterns			*	
3	Construction of Barracks for Livestock			*	
4	Veterinary Services	*			
5	Seeds and Hay for Animals			*	
6	Construction of New Greenhouses			*	
7	Rehabilitation of Greenhouses			*	
8	Field Crops Seeds			*	
9	Plants and Agricultural Supplies			*	

*2km is a main road and 1.5km internal road

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