

Ma'in Village Profile



Prepared by



The Applied Research Institute – Jerusalem
ARIJ

Funded by



Spanish Cooperation



Azahar program

2009

Acknowledgments

ARIJ hereby expresses its deep gratitude to the Spanish Agency for International Cooperation for Development (AECID) for their funding of this project through the Azahar Program.

ARIJ is grateful to the Palestinian officials in the ministries, municipalities, joint services councils, village committees and councils, and the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) for their assistance and cooperation with the project team members during the data collection process.

ARIJ also thanks all the staff who worked throughout the past couple of years towards the accomplishment of this work.

Background

This booklet is part of a series of booklets, which contain compiled information about each city, town, and village in Hebron Governorate. These booklets come as a result of a comprehensive study of all localities in Hebron 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'; a 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 Hebron 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 Hebron 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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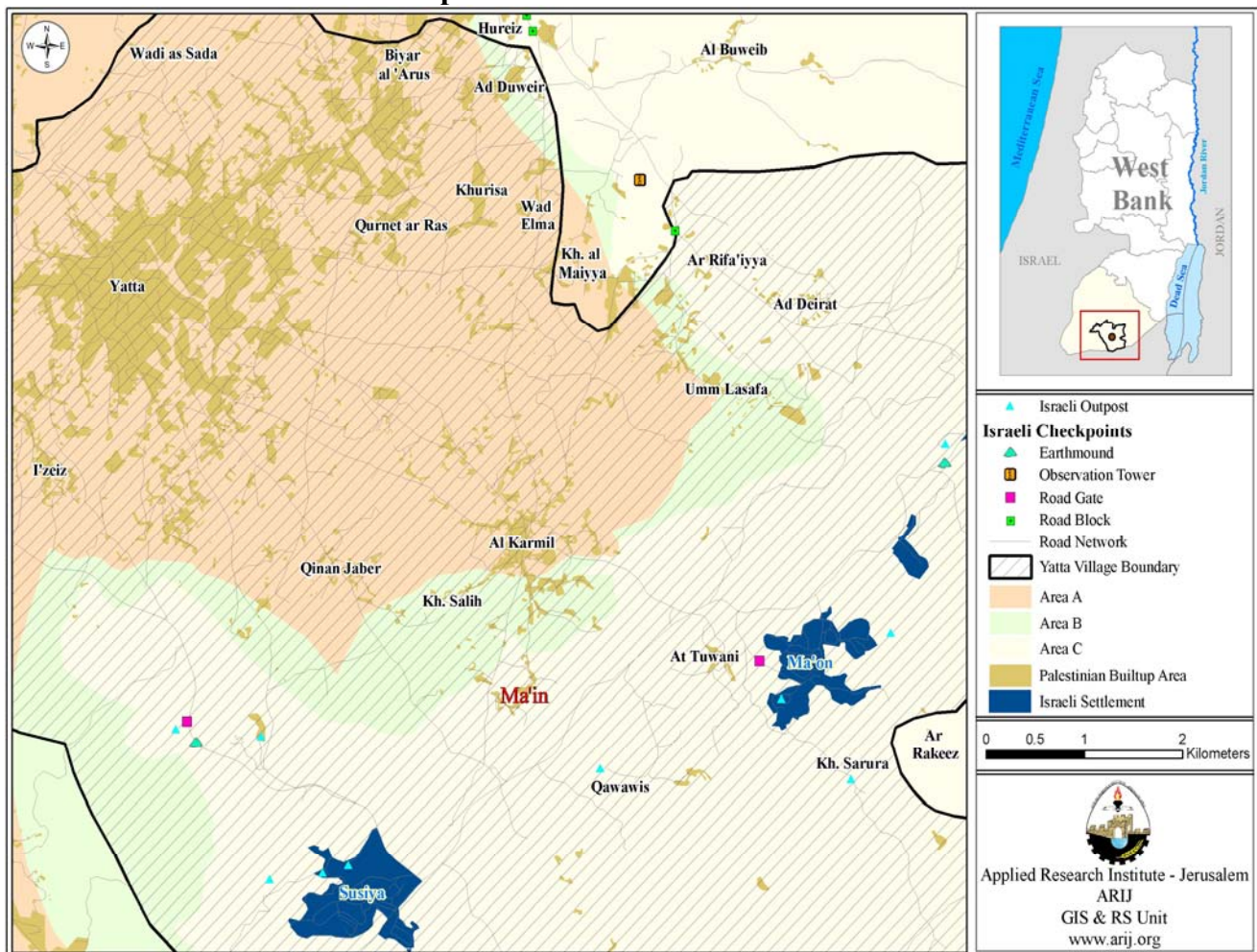
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Ma'in Village Profile

Location and Physical Characteristics

Ma'in is a village to the southeast of Yatta city. It is located 14 kilometers south of Hebron city in the southern West Bank. It is bordered by Tuwana village to the East, Al Karmil village to the North, Khamlet Salih to the West, and by Qawawis village to the South (See Map 1).

Map 1: Ma'in location and borders



The total area of Ma'in village is estimate at around 10,000 dunums, of which 1,700 dunums are Palestinian built-up area, 8,000 dunums are agricultural land, 100 dunums are forests or open spaces area and 200 dunums have been confiscated by Israeli forces.

Ma'in village is located southeast of Yatta city at an elevation of 817 m above Sea level. The mean annual rainfall in the village is 303 mm; the average annual temperature is 18 °C, and the average annual humidity is 60% (ARIJ GIS).

Ma'in village is considered to be a rural area as it meets the criteria relevant to rural areas. The village is governed by a Village Council which was established in 1997. Currently the council consists of five members. Its main duty is to provide infrastructure services to the residents in the village such as electricity and solid waste management.

History

Ma'in is an old village, its history dates back to the Roman period. Also the name of Ma'in is very old; its residents have kept it for a long time. The village residents are indigenous people of the area.

Photo of Ma'in



Religious and Archaeological Sites

There is one religious establishment in Ma'in village which is Hamza Mosque. Also there is one archeological site which is Ma'in hill, though it is not put to good recreational or tourist use.

Map 2: Main locations in Ma'in Village



Demography and Population

According to the 2007 Census conducted by the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS), the total population of Ma'in village was 459 inhabitants, of whom 219 were males and 240 were females. There were 58 households resident in 72 housing units (2007 Census).

Age Group and Gender

The 2007 Census results about Ma'in village showed the distribution of the population in terms of age group and sex .The data showed that 56.2% of the total population was less than 15 years, 40.7% was in the 15-64 age group and 2 % was 65 years and above .

The sex ratio in Ma'in village was 91 males per 100 females. In terms of percentage, the males in the village constituted 47.7% of the total population while females constituted 52.3% of the total population

Families

There are five main families in the village; they are Hamamdah , Makhamrah , Dababsah, Muhammad and Abu Taha.

Education

According to PCBS, Population, Housing and Establishment Census-2007, Final Results, about 16.5% of the total population of Ma'in village were illiterate of whom 26.2% were males and 73.8% were females. Of the literate population, 29.1% of the population could read and write and 30.3% completed their elementary education. Only 17 persons had received secondary education in addition to two other persons who got a Bachelor degree (See table 1).

Sex	Illiterate	Can read & write	Elementary	Preparatory	Secondary	Associate Diploma	Bachelor	Total
M	11	32	42	27	9	-	1	122
F	31	42	35	15	8	-	1	132
T	42	74	77	42	17	-	2	254

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

According to the data collected from the village, there are no educational services in Ma'in and there is a massive need for establishment of schools. Students are forced to go to acquire their elementary and secondary formal education in Al Karmil village which is 2 km away from Ma'in or to Yatta city which 7 km away.

Health Status

Ma'in village lacks of any kind of health services; no clinics, no health center, no physician and no pharmacy. The closest health facilities are in Al Karmil (2 km away) or in Yatta (7 km away).

The village officials state that Ma'in needs a permanent clinic to provide medical diagnosis and treatment for the village's patients, in addition to an ambulance for emergency cases.

Economic Activities

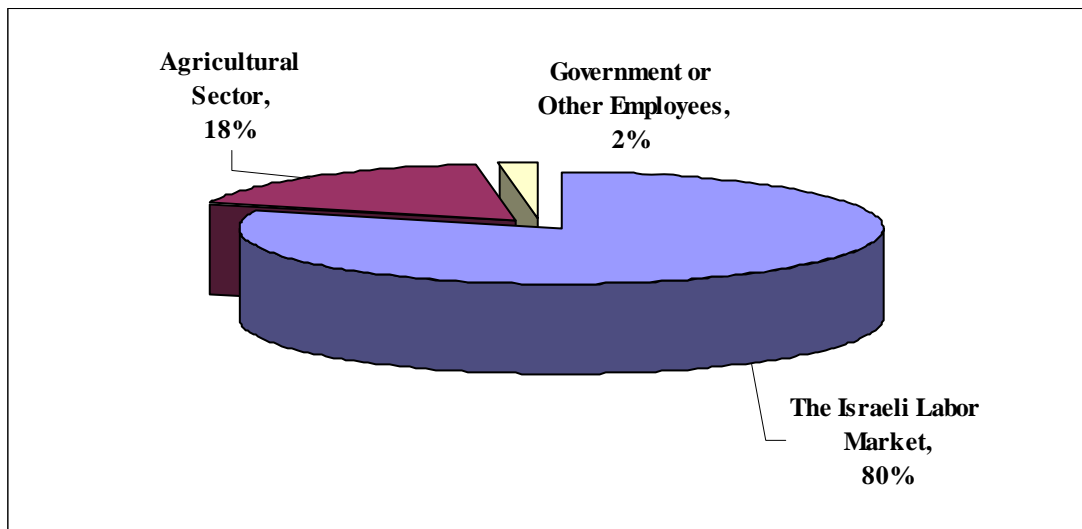
In spite of Ma'in village having a vast area of agricultural land (8,000 dunums), the residents mainly depend on the Israeli labor market, nearly 80% of the labor force in the

village are working in Israeli labor market. The remaining percentage of the labor force is distributed in the agricultural sector (18%) and public and private sectors of employment (2%).

According to the survey conducted in the village, it was indicated that the share of the population working in the various sectors of the economy were as follows:

- The Israeli Labor Market (80%)
- Agricultural Sector (18%)
- Government or Other Employees (2%)

Figure 1: Percentage of economic activities in Ma'in village



In terms of economic institutions, there are no economic institutions, not even a grocery or shop.

Based on a survey conducted in 2007 by ARIJ in Hebron localities, the unemployment rate in the village reached 70%. The survey data also indicated that the social groups most affected in the village due to Israeli measures were:

1. Workers that had previously worked in the Israeli labor market.
2. Families with six individuals and more.
3. Small-holding farmers.
4. Small-holding traders.

Labor Force

According to the PCBS, Population, Housing and Establishment Census in 2007, there were 254 persons within the working age (10 years and above) in Ma'in village. Out of the 254 people, 74 were economically active, of whom 68.9% were employed. And there were 180 non-economically active persons, of whom 35% were students, and 51.7% were housekeeping (see table 2).

Sex	Economically Active				Not Economically Active						Total
	Employed	Currently Unemployed	Unemployed (Never work)	Total	Students	House keeping	Unable to work	Not working & Not looking for Work	Others	Total	
M	51	13	10	74	30	-	12	2	4	48	122
F	-	-	-	-	33	93	5	-	1	132	132
T	51	13	10	74	63	93	17	2	5	180	254

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

Agricultural Sector

As mentioned above, Ma'in village lies on a total area of 10,000 dunums, of which 8000 dunums are considered agricultural land, but it engages only 18% of the labor force. There are around 100 dunums of arable land in addition to 120 dunums of agricultural land which need reclamation. Lack of available investment capital for agricultural development and economic feasibility and the lack of water resources have interfered with the suitability of land for cultivation in the village.

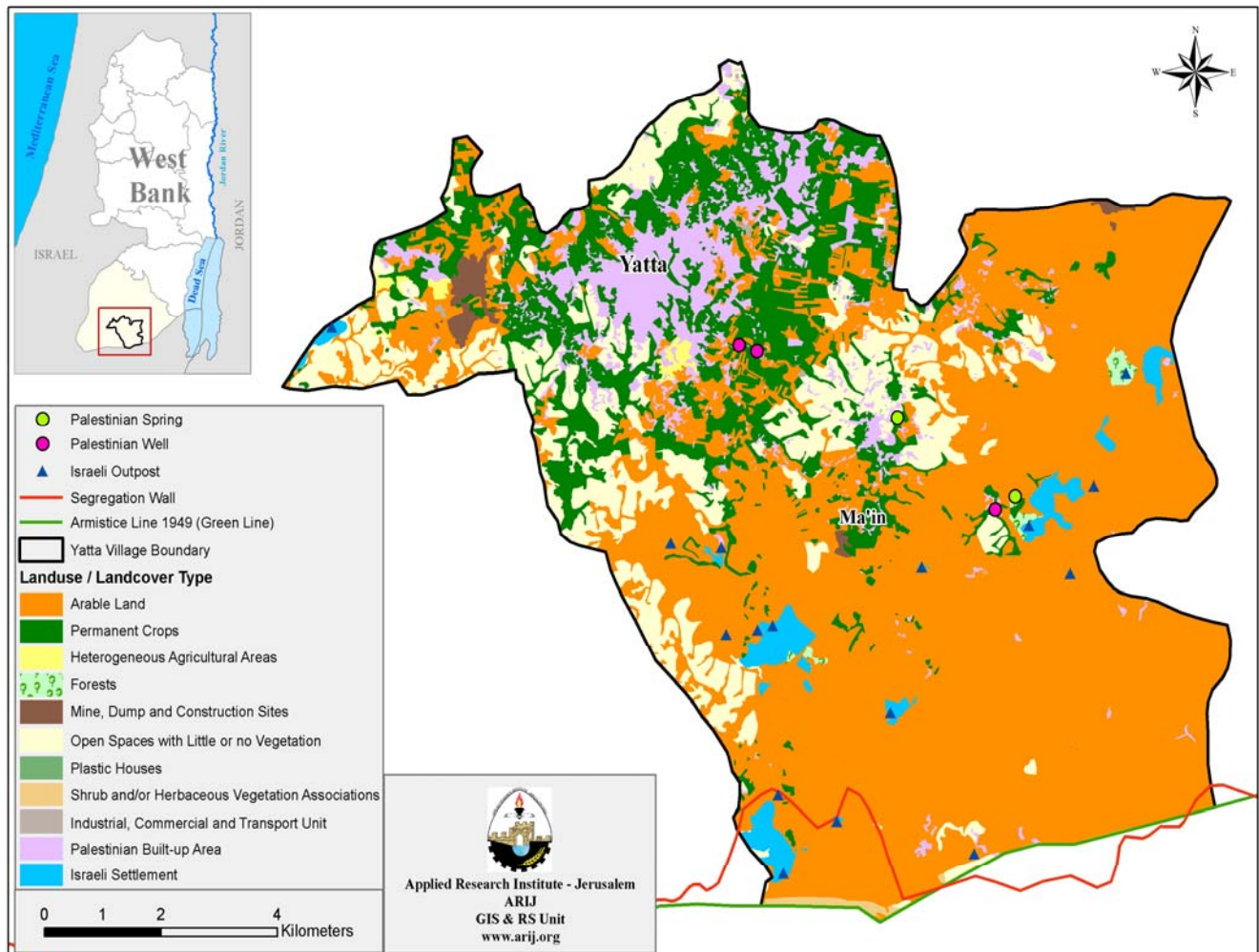
There are about 2 km of agricultural roads in the village. They are suitable for tractors and agricultural hardware but are largely insufficient and the village needs to construct new roads in order to cover the vast agricultural area of the village.

The main cultivated crops in the village include field crops and olive trees which are depend on rain fed.

Ma'in village residents depend on livestock rearing and dairy production. Around 30% of the households rear and keep domestic animals. In total there are about 100 goats and 500 sheep in the village.

Since the beginning of the second Intifada, around 10 olive trees were uprooted in addition to around 200 dunums of field crops vegetation being damaged.

Map 3: Land use/ Land cover and segregation wall route in Ma'in Village



Institutions and Services

Ma'in village lacks any public or charitable institutions, only the village council which is the main institution providing services to the residents.

Infrastructure and Natural Resources

Telecommunication Services: Ma'in village is not yet connected with a telecommunication network.

Water Services: Ma'in is not connected to a water network; the main alternative source of water in the village being cisterns. There are three water springs in the village; Ma'in spring, Eyoun Al Beid spring and Al Isseilah spring. However, none of these springs are potentially utilized for human needs. The greatest requirement for the village is connecting the housing units in the water network to meet the residents' water demand.

Electricity Networks: Since 1997, Ma'in has been connected to the electricity network. The Southern Electricity Company has been the major provider of energy to Ma'in. Around 70% of the housing units in the village are connected to it. Village officials state that the weak electrical current and the poor maintenance of the network are the major problems with the electricity.

Sewage Disposal Facilities: There is no sewage disposable network in the village and the bulk of domestic and wastewater is discharged and disposed of in cesspits.

Solid Waste Collection Services: There is a solid waste management system in Ma'in village. The village is a member of Yatta Joint Services Council and so the generated waste is collected by a hired truck, owned by the council, and transported to a regional dumping site (Al Deirat site) which is about 10 km away from the village, and it is then disposed of by burning it.

Transportation Facilities: Ma'in has no transportation system; the village is served by a number of illegal vehicles. In many cases residents use their own cars or travel by foot to reach neighboring villages. In whatever manner, the transportation system in the village is poorly developed and lacks regulated transport services, in addition to the unsuitability of roads.

Regarding roads in the village, there are about 2.5 km of main un-surfaced roads.

Impact of the Israeli Occupation

Ma'in village is surrounded in three directions (East, West and South) by many Israeli settlements and bypass roads. There are three Israeli settlements to the East, two settlements to the South and one to the West, also one bypass road to the East, in addition to Israeli barriers of sand mounds on the main road of the village.

Since the beginning of the Second Intifada, two houses were demolished and 150 dunums of land have been confiscated from the village.

Locality Development Priorities and Needs

According to Ma'in Village Council the village is still suffering from shortages in many infrastructural and service requirements. Table 3 below summarizes development priorities and needs in the village.

Table 3: Development priorities and needs for Ma'in Village						
No.	Sector	Strongly Needed	Needed	Moderate Needed	Not Needed	Notes
Infrastructural Needs						
1	Opening and Pavement of Roads	*				2.5 km main roads 6 km agricultural roads
2	Construction of New Water Networks	*				
3	Rehabilitation of Old Water Networks				*	
4	Construction of Water Reservoirs	*				
5	Extending the Water Network to cover New Built up Areas	*				
6	Construction of Sewage Disposal Network	*				
Health Needs						
1	Building of New Clinics or Health Care Centre	*				
2	Rehabilitation of Old Clinics or Health Care Centres				*	
3	Purchasing of Medical Equipments and Tools				*	
Educational Needs						
1	Building of New Schools	*				Elementary school
2	Rehabilitation of Old Schools				*	
3	Purchasing of New Equipments for Schools				*	
Agriculture Needs						
1	Rehabilitation of Agricultural lands	*				50 dunum
2	Building Cisterns	*				20 cisterns
3	Construction of Barracks for Livestock			*		5 barracks
4	Veterinary Services	*				
5	Seeds and Hay for Animals	*				
6	Rehabilitation of Greenhouses				*	
7	Field Crops Seeds	*				
8	Plants and Agricultural Supplies	*				

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