

Wad Elma - Um Al 'Amad Village 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 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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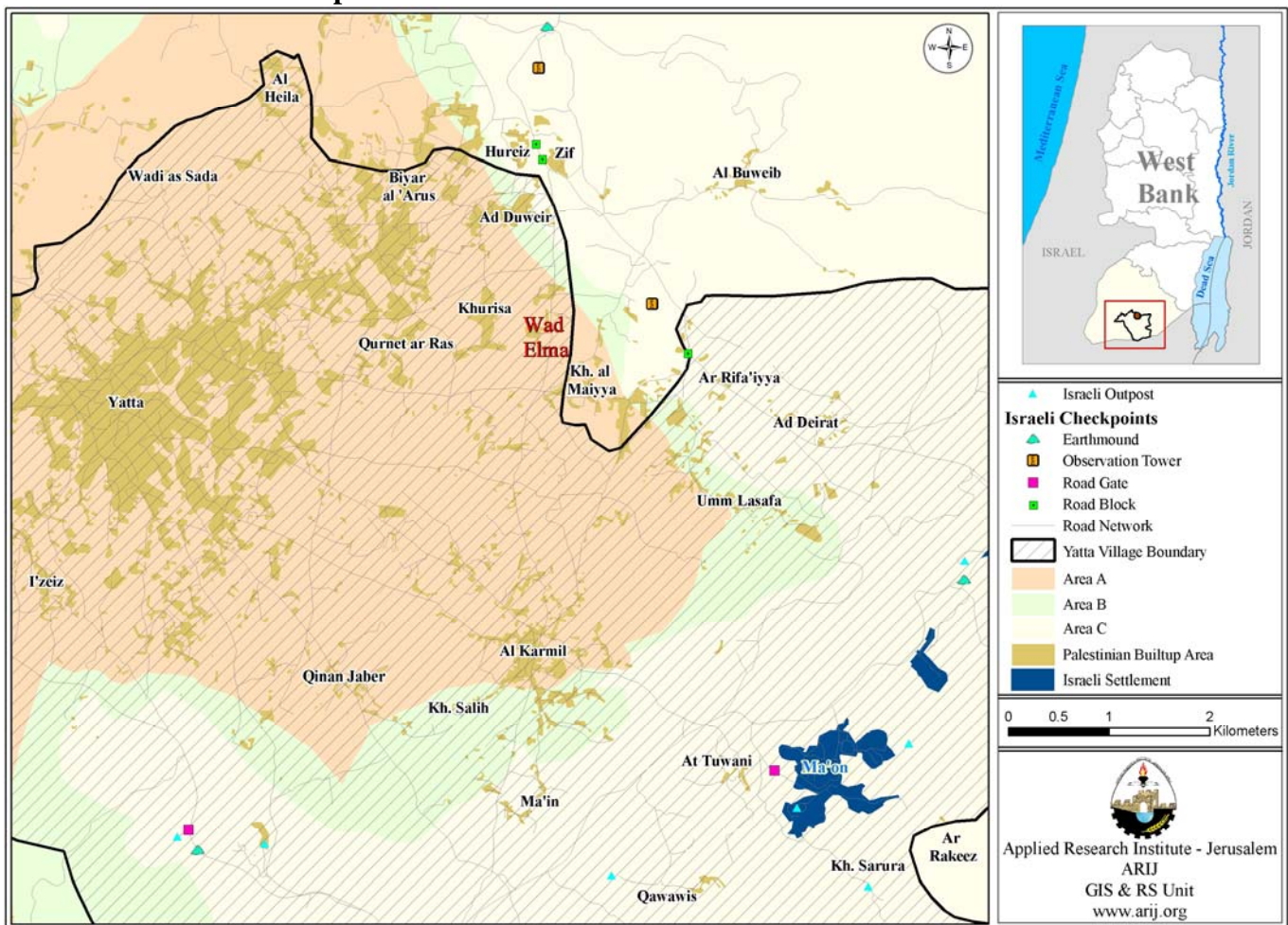
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Wad Elma - Um Al 'Amad Village Profile

Location and Physical Characteristics

Wad Elma & Um Al 'Amad are remote villages to the East of Yatta area, they are located about 10 km southeast of Hebron city in southern West Bank. Wad Elma and Um Al 'Amad are bordered by Khallet al Maiyya village to the East, Zif village to the North, Yatta city (Ruq'a) to the West and Al Hadeediya village to the South (See Map 1).

Map 1: Wad Elma-Um Al 'Amad location and borders



The total area of the village is estimated to be 2,500 dunums, 100 dunums are Palestinian built-up areas and 2,400 dunums are agricultural land.

Wad Elma- Um Al 'Amad villages are governed by a Project committee, established in 2002 by a decision from Ministry of Local Affairs, currently the committee consists of seven members. Services provided by the committee include social and human services.

History

The residents of Wad Elma -Um Al 'Amad state that the village history and name dates back to the Canaanite period. The origin of the people in Wad Elma-Um Al 'Amad is from Hebron city and Yatta city.

Photos of Wad Elma -Um Al 'Amad



Religious and Archaeological Sites

In terms of religious sites, there is one mosque serving the village “Uthman Ibn Affan Mosque”, In terms of archaeological and historical sites there is “Khirbet Um Al 'Amad” but it is not restored.

Map 2: Main location in of Wad Elma-Um Al 'Amad village



Demography and Population

According to the 2007 Population Census implemented in Palestine by the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS), the total population of Wad Elma-Um Al 'Amad village was 152 people, of which 83 were males and 69 were females. There were 29 households resident in 38 housing units (2007 Census).

Age Groups and Gender

The 2007 Census results about Wad Elma-Um Al 'Amad village showed the distribution of the population in terms of age group and sex. The data showed that 49.3% were less than 15 years, 50% were in the 15-64 age group and 0.7% were 65 years and above. The table above reveals that the sex ratio in the village in 2007 was 121 males for every 100 females. In terms of percentages, the males in Wad Elma-Um Al 'Amad constituted 54.7% of the population and female constitute 45.3%.

Families

The residents of Wad Elma-Um Al 'Amad village are comprised of the four following families:

- Abu Subha family,
- Abu Saninah family,
- Nawag'a family,
- Balal family,

Education

According to (PCBS), Population, Housing and Establishment Census 2007 results, about 4.3% of Wad Elma-Um Al 'Amad residents were illiterate, of whom women 100% of the illiterate. Of the literate population, 15.2% of residents could read and write although having received no formal education, 30.4% had completed elementary education, 21.7% had completed preparatory education and 28.3% had completed both secondary and higher education. Table 1 shows the education status in Wad Elma-Um Al 'Amad by sex and education attainment in 2007.

Sex	Illiterate	Can read & write	Elementary	Preparatory	Secondary	Associate Diploma	Bachelor	Higher Diploma	Master	PhD	Total
M	-	10	15	11	12	1	2	-	-	-	51
F	4	4	13	9	9	1	1	-	-	-	41
T	4	14	28	20	21	2	3	-	-	-	92

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

The field survey data indicated that there are no educational institutions (schools and kindergarten) in the villages; therefore the students in Wad Elma-Um Al 'Amad village forced to travel four km to reach Zif village so as to complete their elementary education and 6 km to reach Ruq'aa village to complete their secondary education. The educational sector in the village is suffering from the lack of schools in the village.

Health Status

Wad Elma-Um Al 'Amad village lacks health services; the village has no health centers, ambulances, or pharmacies. In the event of emergency, residents of Wad Elma-Um Al 'Amad access Ruq'aa village (6 km from the village) or Khallet al Maiyya village (3 km from the village) hospitals and health centers. The village council officials cite that the main obstacles facing the health sector in the village are:

- There being no ambulance to provide services in the village.
- There being no available health center in the village.

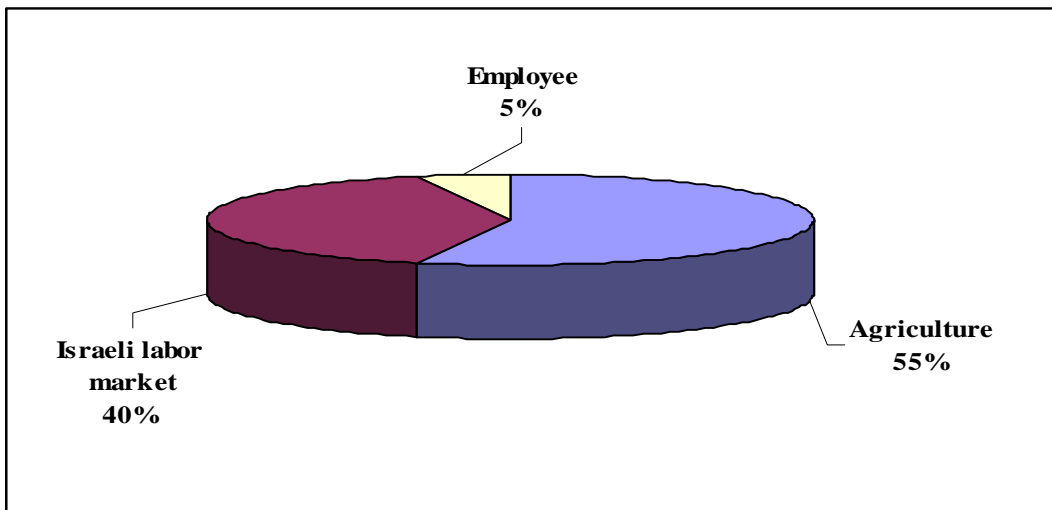
Economic Activities

According to the local Project Committee data, the main source of income for the residents in the villages is the agricultural sector and the Israeli labor market. Approximately 55% of the workers in the village are engaged in agricultural activities and 40% depends on the Israeli labor market. In addition, a small portion is employed in public and private sector (5%). In terms of economic institutions there is Al Juneidy farm and one grocery in Um Al 'Amad -Wad Elma.

According to village officials’ estimates, the economic base of the village consists of the following sectors:

- Agricultural Sector (55%)
- The Israeli Labor Market (40%)
- Employee sector (5%)

Figure 1: Percentage of economic activities in Wad Elma-Um Al 'Amad village



Data indicated that the most affected social groups in the village as a result of Israeli restrictions during the Second Intifada were:

1. Housekeeping and children.
2. Families maintaining 6 individuals or more.
3. Small-holding farmers.

Labor Force

According to PCPS, Population, Housing and Establishment Census-2007 results, 62.2% of the population of Wad Elma-Um Al 'Amad were of working age (i.e. 10 years and above). Of 92 people above the minimum working age, 36 people (39.1%) were economically active people – in the labor force-of which 83.3% were employed and 16.7% were unemployed. The total number of economically non-active persons (i.e. those out of the labor force) stood at 56, 44.6% of whom were students, 46.4% were housekeeping, and 8.9% are unable or unwilling to work (See table 2):

Table 2: Wad Elma-Um Al 'Amad population (10 years and above) by sex and employment status-2007

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	27	6	-	33	14	-	1	-	3	18	51
F	3	-	-	3	11	26	1	-	-	38	41
T	30	6	-	36	25	26	2	-	3	56	92

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

Agricultural Sector

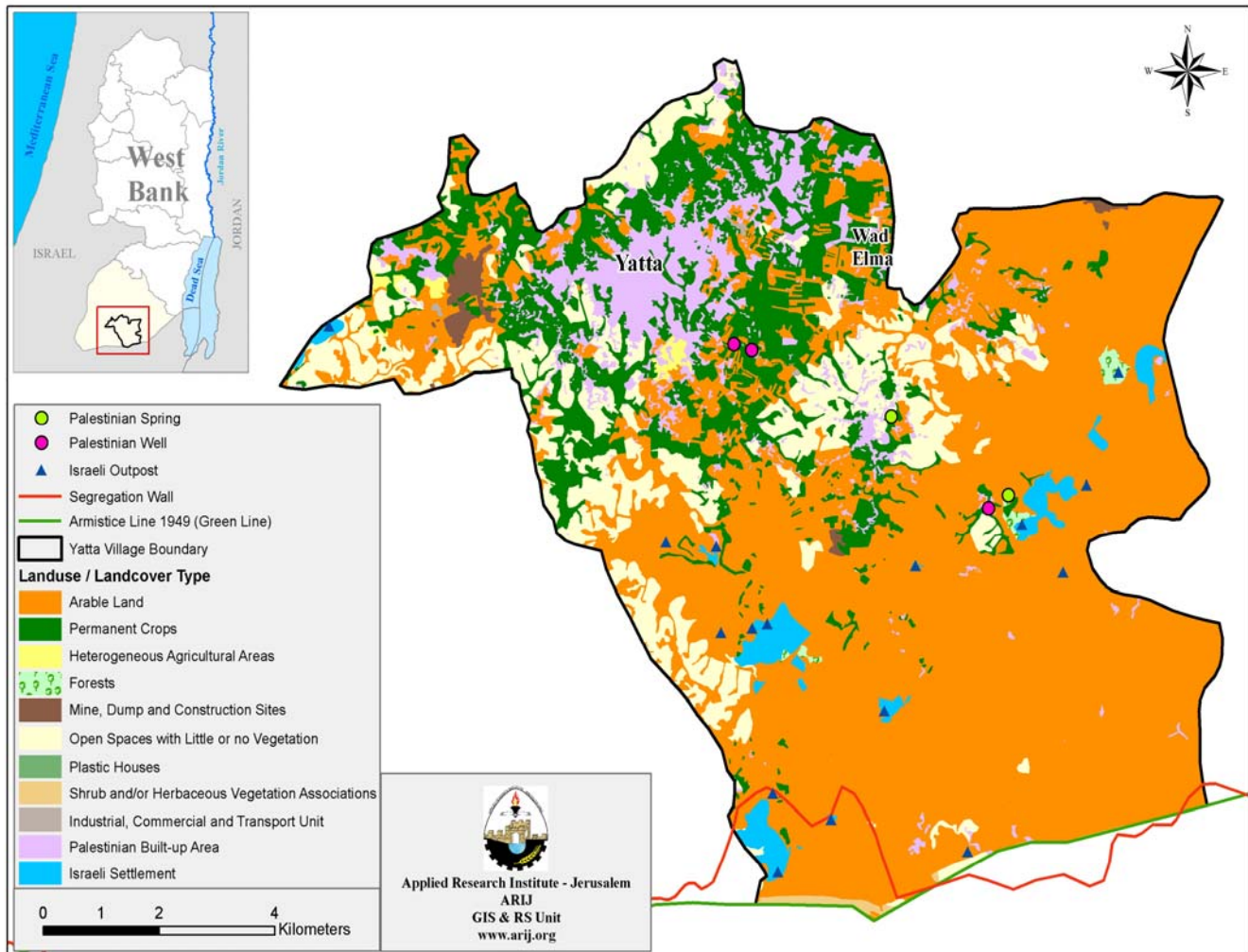
Wad Elma-Um Al 'Amad village lies on a total area of 2,500 dunums, of which 2,000 dunums are agriculture land, About 200 dunums in the village are agricultural land but unutilized due to the shortage of water and investment capital. There are also about 200 dunums needing rehabilitation. The main crops cultivated in the village are olive trees, almond trees and field crops.

Data collected from Wad Elma-Um Al 'Amad village indicates that the residents depend on livestock rearing and dairy production. The data indicates that around 10% of the households are rearing and keeping domestic animals. In total there are about 40 cows, 200 goats and 200 sheep in addition to 3 poultry farms with approximately 12,000 birds.

There is about one km of agricultural roads in Wad Elma-Um Al 'Amad that is suitable for tractors and agricultural machinery.

The agricultural sector in Wad Elma-Um Al 'Amad village suffers from many problems The Economic infeasibility of agriculture and the economic situation of families are the main obstacles standing in the way of agricultural development.

Map 3: Land use/land cover and Segregation Wall in Wad Elma-Um Al 'Amad village



Institutions and Services

The main institute in the village is the project committee, founded in 2002.

Infrastructure and Natural Resources

Telecommunication Services: Wad Elma-Um Al 'Amad village has not yet been connected to a telecommunication network.

Water Services: 'Wad Elma - Um Al 'Amad' is not connected to a water network. The alternative resources of water in the village are cisterns and water tanks. The problem which faces the project committee in the water sector is the lack of a water network.

Electricity Services: Wad Elma-Um Al 'Amad village has been connected to an electricity network since 2003, supplied by the South Electricity Company.

Sewage Disposal Facilities: As the village is not connected to the sewage disposal network, wastewater is disposed of in cesspits.

Solid Waste Collection Services: As there are no solid waste services in the village, the solid waste is collected by private cars and sent to a dumping site which is about 8 km away from the village.

Transportation Facilities: The village lacks any formal transportation, the available transportation being composed of four informal cars; otherwise residents have to walk to the nearest main road. The primary obstacles facing transportation in the village are the lack of vehicles and automotive services. In terms of road quality, 3 km of main roads are surfaced and in good condition, 7 km are un-surfaced (4 km are main roads, 2 km are internal roads and 1 km are agricultural roads).

Impact of the Israeli Occupation

There is no direct impact on the village other than the usual restriction of movement while travelling from one village to another.

Development Plans and Projects

Since 2004, the project committee implemented one project in the localities which was to pave the main road in the village in 2004, and was funded by European Union (EU).

Locality Development Priorities and Needs

According to Wad Elma -Um Al 'Amad Project Committee, the village has suffered from a shortage of many infrastructural and service needs. Table 3 below shows the development priorities and needs in the village.

Table 3: Development priorities and needs for of Wad Elma-Um Al 'Amad village						
No.	Sector	Strongly Needed	Needed	Moderately Needed	Not Needed	Notes
Infrastructural Needs						
1	Opening and Pavement of Roads	*				6 km ^
2	Construction of New Water Networks	*				7 km
3	Rehabilitation of Old Water Networks				*	
4	Construction of Water Reservoirs	*				500 m ³
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 & Secondary
2	Rehabilitation of Old Schools				*	
3	Purchasing of New Equipments for Schools				*	
Agriculture Needs						
1	Rehabilitation of Agricultural lands				*	
2	Building Cisterns	*				13 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	*				

^ 4000 m main roads and 2000 m internal roads

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