

Al Fawwar Refugee 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 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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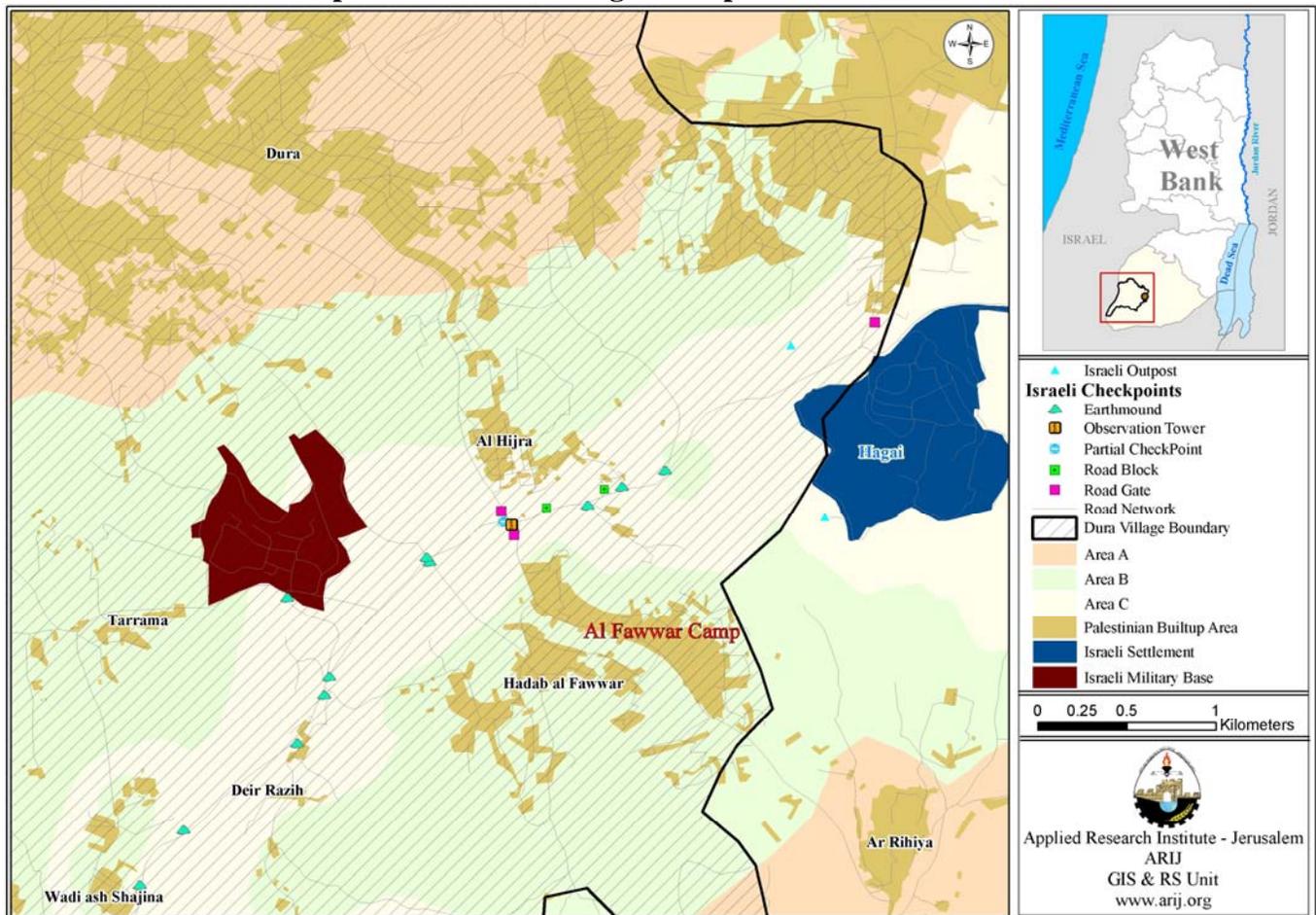
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Al Fawwar Refugee Camp Profile

Location and Physical Characteristics

Al Fawwar Refugee Camp is located within the Dura village boundary. The camp is located about 8 kilometres south of Hebron City in the southern part of the West Bank. It is bordered by Ar Rihya village to the east, Hebron City to the north, Dura city and Hadab al Fawwar village to the west and Yatta city to the south (See map 1).

Map 1: Al Fawwar Refugee Camp location and borders



According to the Palestinian Ministry of Agriculture in Dura, the total area of Al Fawwar Refugee Camp is approximately 870 dunums. Around 500 dunums is built up area and about 300 dunums that are considered to be arable, though only 139 dunums are actual agricultural land.

Since 1998, Al Fawwar Refugee Camp has been governed by Al Fawwar Camp Popular Committee that was appointed by the Department of Refugee in the Occupied Palestinian Territory. The committee comprises of nine members. It provides services to the refugees in the

camp which include; developing the infrastructure, proposing projects for the camp, and building relationships with other communities in the neighborhood.

Al Fawwar Refugee Camp is located south of Hebron city at an elevation of 760 m above sea level. The average annual temperature is about 16 °C, and the average annual humidity is 60.6%. The mean annual rainfall is 436 mm (ARIJ GIS, 2006).

History

Al Fawwar Refugees Camp was established in 1950, after the Palestinian Catastrophe (Al Nakba) in 1948. The residents of Al Fawwar Camp settled first in Al Arroub Refugee camp (north of Hebron city) for two years before moving to Al Fawwar. Originally there were approximately 14,000 refugees, but most of them immigrated to Jordan in 1967.

The United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) is the supervisory service provider for Al Fawwar Refugee Camp. In 1956, UNRWA built housing-flats for the refugees in Al Fawwar and distributed to the refugees according to their family size.

The refugees originally come from several villages inside Israel. These villages include: Iraq Al-Manshiyyah, Beit Jibreen, Tal As-Safi, Samu'el, Falujah, Deir Adubbn, Aker, Al-Masmiyyah, Deir Nakhass, Beit Mahseer, Ajoor and Qbeibah. The refugees that came from Iraq Al-Manshiyyah and Beit Jibreen form the major population in the camp.

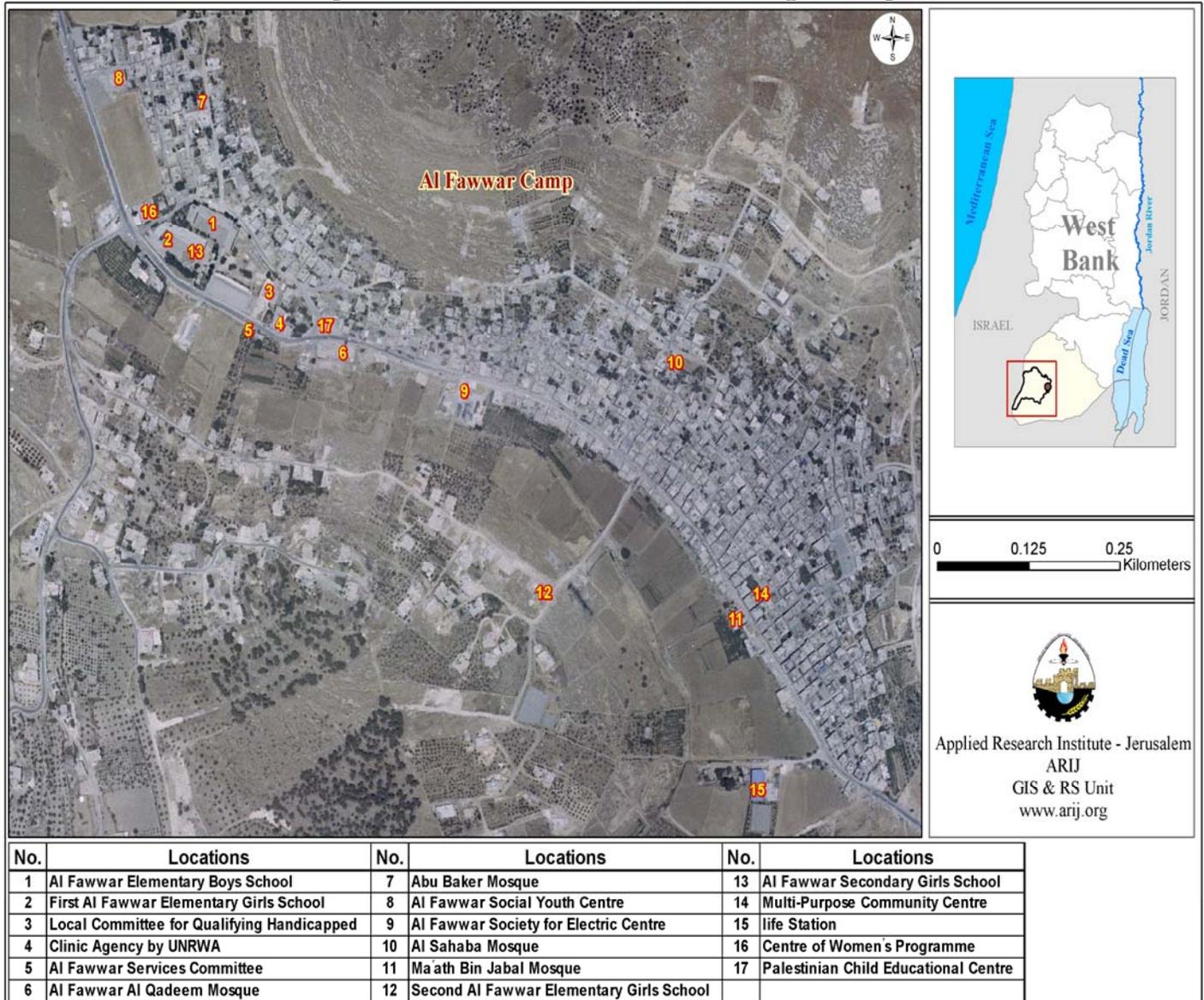
Photos of Al Fawwar Refugee Camp



Religious and Archaeological Sites

There are four mosques in Al Fawwar camp serving the residents, these mosque are: Abu Baker Mosque, Ma’ath Bin Jabal Mosque, Al Sahaba Mosque and Al Fawwar Al Qadeem Mosque. There are no other historical and archaeological sites in the camp.

Map 2: Main locations in Al Fawwar Refugee Camp



Population

In 2007 the total population of Al Fawwar Refugee Camp was about 6,544, of whom 3,354 were males and 3,190 were females. There were 1,029 households living in 1,092 housing units. The average household size was 6.4 people. The population density in the camp is very high; in 1997 it was 5,567 km².

Age groups and gender

The 2007 Census data shows the distribution of Al Fawwar Refugee Camp population by age group and sex. The people between the ages of 15- 64 constituted the largest age group, which accounted for 49.5% of the total population. The 0-14 age group constituted 47.2% and the 65 and above constituted 2.9% of the total population. The sex ratio in the camp was 105 males for every 100 females, in terms of percentages, males constituted 51.3% of the total population and females constituted 48.7%.

Families

The main families in Al Fawwar Refugee Camp are: the At-Titi Family, the Shadfan Family, the Ash Shawabkah Family, the Hilqawi Family, the Awad Family, the Amsi Family, the Bayed Family, the Najjar Family, the Awadi Family, the Abu Rabe' Family, the As Sarahneh Family. Al Fawwar Refugee camp also consists of a number of smaller families.

Migration

According to the camp officials, there were 400 cases of emigration from the village since the Second Intifada. This was mainly a result of the Israeli activities in the region and family problems experienced in the camp.

Education

Table 1 shows educational attainment by sex in Al Fawwar Refugee Camp as in 2007, the table shows that 5.4% of the population 10 years and above were illiterate of whom 32.6% were males and 67.4% were females. Similarly, 11.5% of the people could read and write, but had no formal education. The table also shows that 20.4% had completed elementary school, and that 33.4% had finished preparatory school. Only 13.6% of residents had completed secondary school and 15.8% continued to complete their higher education.

Sex	Illiterate	Can read & write	Elementary	Preparatory	Secondary	Associate Diploma	Bachelor	Master	PhD	Total
M	75	261	423	783	301	192	145	17	4	2,201
F	155	230	452	649	281	132	185	2	-	2,086
T	230	491	875	1,432	582	324	330	19	4	4,287

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

According to a survey data, there are four schools in Al Fawwar Camp, one supervised by Government sector and the other three schools are supervised by UNRWA. Three of the schools provide elementary education and one provides secondary education. Table 2 below shows the number of schools by name, stage, sex and supervising authority.

No.	School Name	Stage	Sex	Supervising Authority
1.	Al Fawwar Elementary Boys School	Elementary	Male	UNRWA
2.	First Al Fawwar Elementary Girls School	Elementary	Female	UNRWA
3.	Second Al Fawwar Elementary Girls School	Elementary	Female	UNRWA
4.	Al Fawwar Secondary Girls School	Secondary	Female	Governmental

Source: ARIJ Survey, 2007

The data of the Palestinian Ministry of Higher Education (MOHE) reveals that at the end of the 2006/2007 scholastic year, there were 2,273 students (1,050 males and 1,223 females), 61 classes, and 82 teachers in Al Fawwar Refugee Camp education system, (See table 3).

		Government	UNRWA	Total
Male	No. of Schools	0	1	1
	No. of Class	0	27	27
	No. of Teachers	0	36	36
	No. of Students	0	1,050	1,050
Female	No. of Schools	1	2	3
	No. of Class	6	28	34
	No. of Teachers	10	36	46
	No. of Students	184	1,039	1,223
Total	No. of Schools	1	3	4
	No. of Class	6	55	61
	No. of Teachers	10	72	82
	No. of Students	184	2,089	2,273

Source: ARIJ Data Base – 2007

As of 2007, there were four kindergartens in Al Fawwar Refugees Camp. These kindergartens provide pre-education services to 336 children. Table 4 below listed the kindergartens in the camp by name, number of children and classes, and supervising authority.

No.	Kindergarten Name	Number of Classes	Number of Children	Supervising Authority
1.	Al A'mal Kindergarten	2	76	The Social Rehabilitation Centre
2.	Al Azhar Kindergarten	2	91	Center of Women's Programmes
3.	Ma'ath Bin Jabal Kindergarten	3	119	Ma'ath Bin Jabal Mosque
4.	Al Khansa' Kindergarten	2	50	Private
Total		9	336	-

Because of the lack of secondary schools in the camp, students are forced to travel 3 km, 5 km or 8 km to complete their secondary education, going to Ar Rihya, Dura or Hebron city, respectively. The educational sector in the village also greatly suffers from the continuous Israeli closures. In addition, Al Fawwar Secondary Girls School lacks a reliable building, as the building they currently use is rented.

Health Status

There are seven health institutions in Al Fawwar Refugees Camp. As shown in table 5, UNRWA is the main provider of health services of the camp. There are three institutions run by UNRWA, three run by private sector and one charitable health institution. There are three physician clinics, one dental clinic, one medical lab, one pharmacy and one physiotherapy centre.

Institution	Private	Charitable	UNRWA
Physician Clinic	1	1	1
Dental Clinic	1	-	-
Medical Lab	-	-	1
Pharmacy	1	-	-
Physiotherapy	-	-	1
Total	3	1	3

Source: ARIJ Data Base – 2007

The health sector in Al Fawwar Refugee Camp suffers from a lack of medical services at night because the clinics are not a 24hour service. The camp also lacks; an ambulance, medical equipments, medicines and other crucial health services. This means that the people in camp are more often than not, forced to travel approximately eight kilometers to reach the Yatta and Hebron hospitals.

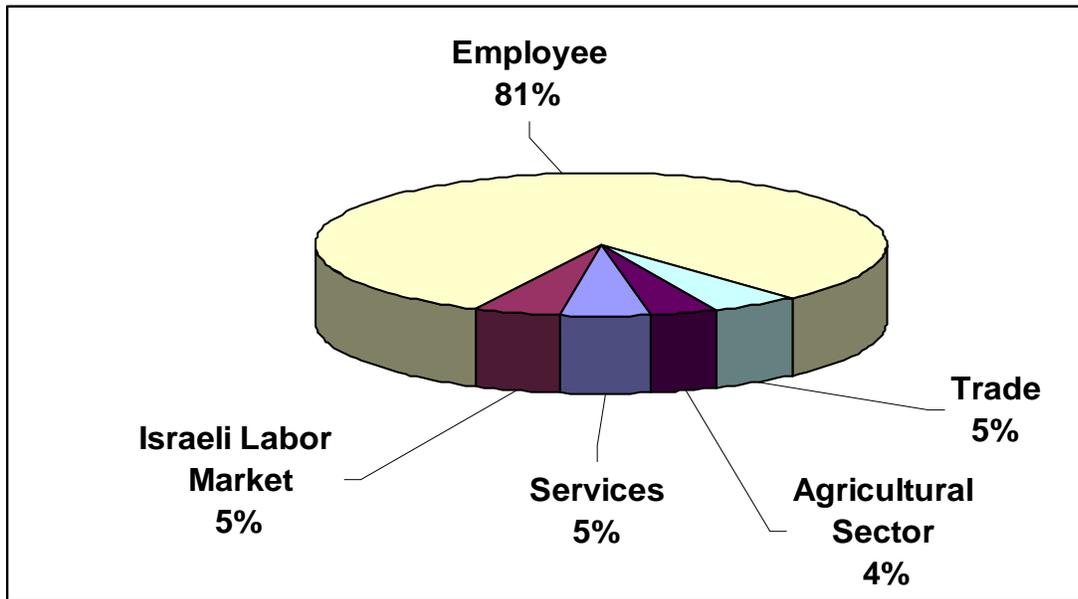
Economic Activities

Refugees of Al Fawwar camp suffer from extreme poverty. According to the field survey done by ARIJ in the Hebron localities, most of the refugees depend on governmental or private employment. Due to the non existence of work opportunities inside the camp or in the neighboring towns and cities, most of the residents work in towns that are far from the camp. About 81% of them are depending on employment in public and private sector.

According to a survey conducted in the camp, the population working in the various sectors of the economy is the following, (by percentage):

- Government or Other Employees (81%)
- Israeli Labor Market (5%)
- Services Sector (5%)
- Trade Sector (5%)
- Agricultural Sector (4%)

Figure 1: Percentage of economic activity in Al Fawwar Refugee Camp



The economic base of the camp also depends on local establishments including 150 groceries, 5 clothing shops, 2 butchers, 3 blacksmiths, a carpentry workshop and 4 general services shops.

Committee officials indicated that the unemployment rate in the camp reached 40% in 2007. The committee officials also indicated that the social groups in the camp most affected by Israeli activities since the Second Intifada are the previously workers in the Israeli labor market.

Labour Force

According to the PCBS, Population, Housing and Establishment Census- 2007, there were 1,357 economically active persons and 2,930 non-economically active persons in Al Fawwar Camp. Of the economically active, 82% were employed. The percentage of employment was higher with for males (79.1%) than for females (20.9 %). The largest groups of non-economically active were students (62.7%) and housekeeping (26.7%).

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	879	76	115	1,070	931	6	144	20	30	1,131	2,201
F	232	9	46	287	906	777	105	3	8	1,799	2,086
T	1,111	85	161	1,357	1,837	783	249	23	38	2,930	4,287

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

Agricultural Sector

Al Fawwar Refugee Camp lies on a total area of 870 dunums. 300 dunums are considered arable land; however, only 139 dunums are cultivated. There are about 6 dunums of greenhouses; this area is used primarily for growing cucumber.

Total Area	Arable Land		Build up Area
	Uncultivated Area	Cultivated Area	
870	161	139	500

Source: Palestinian Ministry of Agricultural (MoA), 2006

Map 3: Land use/land cover and Segregation Wall in Al Fawwar Camp

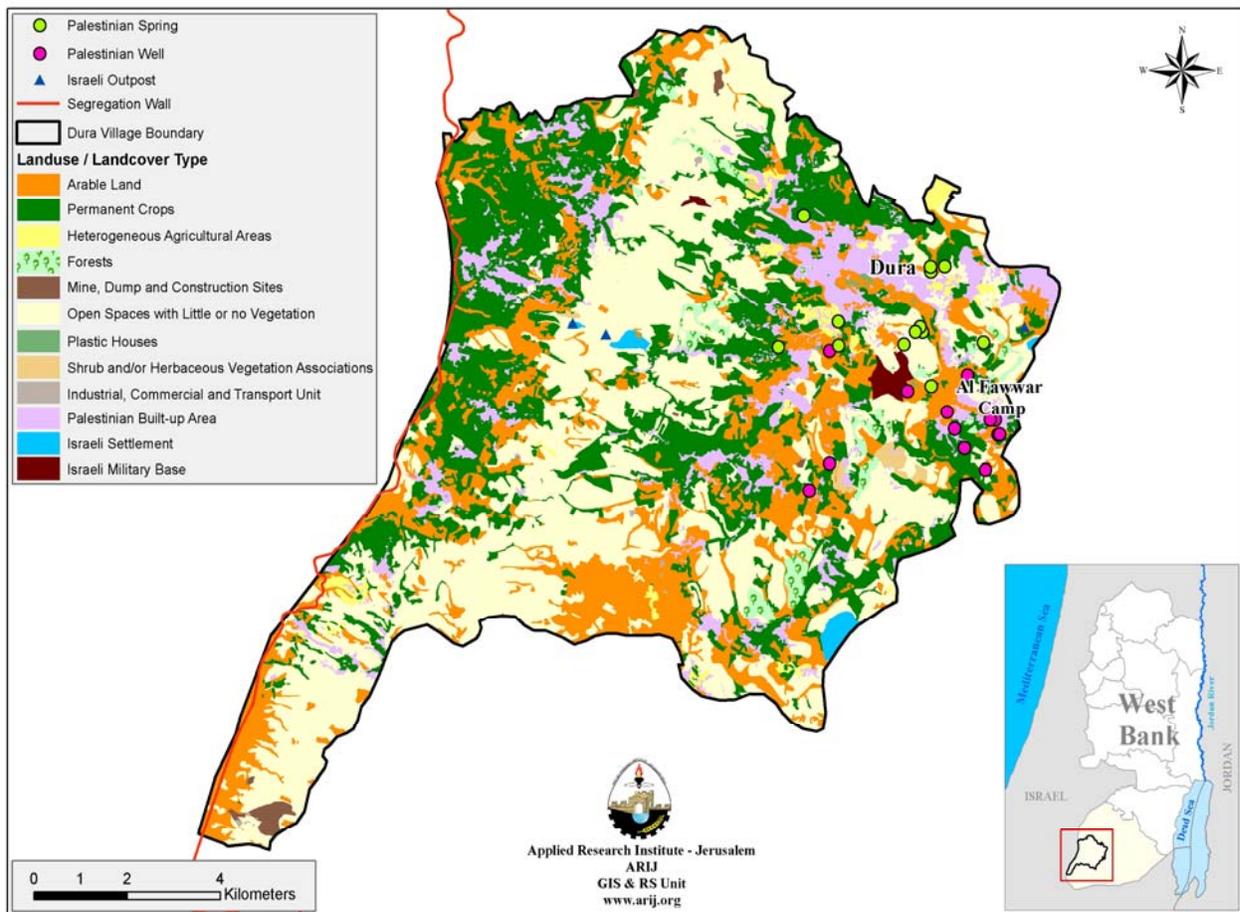


Table 8 shows the different types of rain-fed and irrigated open cultivated vegetables in the Al Fawwar Refugee Camp. Only 25 dunums of the camp area are cultivated with vegetables, mostly irrigated vegetables.

Fruity Vegetables		Leafy Vegetable		Green Legumes		Bulbs		Other Vegetables		Total	
RF	Irr.	RF	Irr.	RF	Irr.	RF	Irr.	RF	Irr.	RF	Irr.
6	2	0	8	0	1	0	2	2	4	8	17

RF: Rain-fed, IRR: Irrigated

There are 3 types of aromatic medical plants in Al Fawwar Refugee Camp which spread over a total area of about 3 dunums. These plants are thyme, mint and sage.

In the Al Fawwar Refugee Camp, there is a total area of 21 dunums of olive tree plantations. Other common trees planted in the area are almond trees, and grape vines.

Olives		Citrus		Stone-Fruits		Nuts		Other Fruit		Total area	
RF	Irr	RF	Irr	RF	Irr	RF	Irr	RF	Irr	RF	Irr
21	0	0	1	3	0	15	0	16	0	55	1

RF: Rain-fed, IRR: Irrigated

Table 10 shows the total field crops cultivated in the Al Fawwar Refugee Camp. Cereals, in particular wheat and barley, are the most commonly cultivated crops with an area of approximately 25 dunums. In addition, the cultivation of forage crops such as common vetch and bitter vetch is very common in Al Fawwar Refugee Camp.

Cereals		Bulbs		Dry Legumes		Forage Crops		Stimulating Crops		Total Field Crops	
RF	Irr	RF	Irr	RF	Irr	RF	Irr	RF	Irr	RF	Irr
25	0	1	0	1	0	21	0	0	1	49	0

RF: Rain-fed, IRR: Irrigated

The data also indicates that the residents of Al Fawwar Refugee Camp are also dependent upon rearing livestock, such as sheep, goats and chicken.

Cows*	Sheep	Goats	Donkeys	Broilers	Layers
10	200	120	13	22,800	1,000

* Including cows, bull calves, heifer calves and bulls

Institutions and Services

Since the refugees in the camp are suffering from a severe economic situation, there has been an influx of philanthropic donations to assist the maintenance of the camp. This includes building social, health, and national institutions so as to serve the refugees of the camp. Some of the institutions are listed as follow:

- Al Fawwar Services Committee: Established in 1998 by the Department of Refugee in the Occupied Palestinian Territories (OPT).
- Al Fawwar Social Youth Centre: Established in 1958 by UNRWA.
- Local Committee for Qualifying Handicapped: Established in 1990 by a group of experts in social service.
- Multi-Purpose Community Centre: Established in 1999, the centre is established as a result of a project between the Italian institution (ARCI) and the local institutions in the camps, through the ARCS programme.
- Palestinian Child Educational Centre: The centre was established in 1995, and supervised by the Palestinian Ministry of Culture.
- Al Fawwar Society for Electric Centre: Established in 1975 by the people of the camp.
- Centre of Women's Programme: The centre was established in 1993 by a group of women from the camp. The aim of the centre is to enhance the status of women in all aspects of life; educationally, socially and economically. Another aims for the centre is to help the working women during pregnancy.
- Refugee Cultural Center.

Infrastructure and Natural Resources

- **Telecommunication Services:** Al Fawwar Camp is connected to a telecommunication network and about 70% of the housing units are connected to the network.
- **Water Services:** There is a water network in Al Fawwar Refugee Camp that was established in 1980, and is provided by the Hebron Municipality. About 90% of the housing units in the camp are connected to the network. In terms of alternative water sources, the households are mainly dependant on wells. There are two wells in the camp belonging to the Al Fawwar Station, where it distributes to the camp and to the Hadab Al Fawwar village.

The water sector in the camp suffers from the following problems:

1. Lack of water especially in summer.
 2. Weak pumps at the station.
 3. Inaccessible water for every housing unit.
- **Electricity Services:** Al Fawwar Refugee Camp has been connected to a electricity network since 1990. The electricity is provided by the Israeli National Electric Company (Qutria) through Al Fawwar Society for Electric Lightening. All the housing units are connected to the network. The electricity services in the camp suffer greatly from the weak electricity currents, and inability of adding generators to strengthen the current electricity network.
 - **Sewage Disposal Facilities:** In al Fawwar Refugee Camp, more than 70% of the housing units have been connected to sewage network since 2002. The camp generates about 0.0796 MCM of wastewater per year.
 - **Solid Waste Collection Services:** The camp committee and UNRWA manage the solid waste collection in Al Fawwar Camp. According to the field survey, 60 m³ of the solid waste is produced daily in the camp and collected by a UNRWA vehicle. The solid wastes collected from the residential areas are sent to a dumping site (in Hebron, 7 km far from the camp) operated by the Joint Services Council. Burning and burying are the main methods used to dispose of solid waste.
 - **Transportation Services:** Al Fawwar Refugee Camp is served by three buses and 15 informal transportation vehicles. The transportation sector in the camp suffers from the existing of checkpoints and earth mounts. In terms of road quality, there are 1.5 kilometres of main roads which are paved and in good condition, and 6 kilometres of internal roads paved but in poor condition.

Impact of the Israeli Occupation

Al Fawwar Refugee Camp is subjected to many Israeli procedures. To the northeast of the camp Israeli settlers have built the Hagai settlement on an area equals 400 km². The settlement is about 3-4 km far to the northeast of the camp. The camp also is adjacent to the Al Majnouna Israeli military base which lies about 2 km to the east of the camp. In addition there is metal gates, and a military tower near the camp, which occupies about 200 km². The camp is also subjected to flying checkpoints on the road to Yatta city.

Development Plans and Projects

In 2005, the Sewage Network Project was implemented in the camp. The project was funded by UNRWA (Operational projects) in cooperation with Al Fawwar Services Committee.

Locality Development Priorities and Needs

According to Al Fawwar Refugee Camp committee, the camp has been suffering from a severe shortage in infrastructure and services. The camp officials indicated that the camp needs two secondary schools, one for boys and one for girls. Similarly the village also needs a social playing area for children, and an elderly centre, and would greatly benefit from a meeting hall. Table 12 shows the development priorities in the camp.

Table 12: Development priorities and needs for Al Fawwar Refugee Camp						
No.	Sector	Strongly Needed	Needed	Moderately Needed	Not Needed	Notes
Infrastructural Needs						
1.	Opening and Pavement of Roads	*				9,000 m [^]
2.	Construction of New Water Networks				*	
3.	Rehabilitation of Old Water Networks	*				6 km
4.	Construction of Water Reservoirs	*				2,500 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	*				Secondary Education
2.	Rehabilitation of Old Schools				*	
3.	Purchasing of New Equipments for Schools	*				
Agriculture Needs						
1.	Rehabilitation of Agricultural lands				*	
2.	Building Cisterns	*				50 cisterns
3.	Construction of Barracks for Livestock				*	
4.	Veterinary Services		*			
5.	Seeds and Hay for Animals	*				
6.	Rehabilitation of Greenhouses				*	
7.	Field Crops Seeds				*	
8.	Plants and Agricultural Supplies				*	

[^] 4,000 m main roads and 5,000 m internal roads

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