

# Al Buweib 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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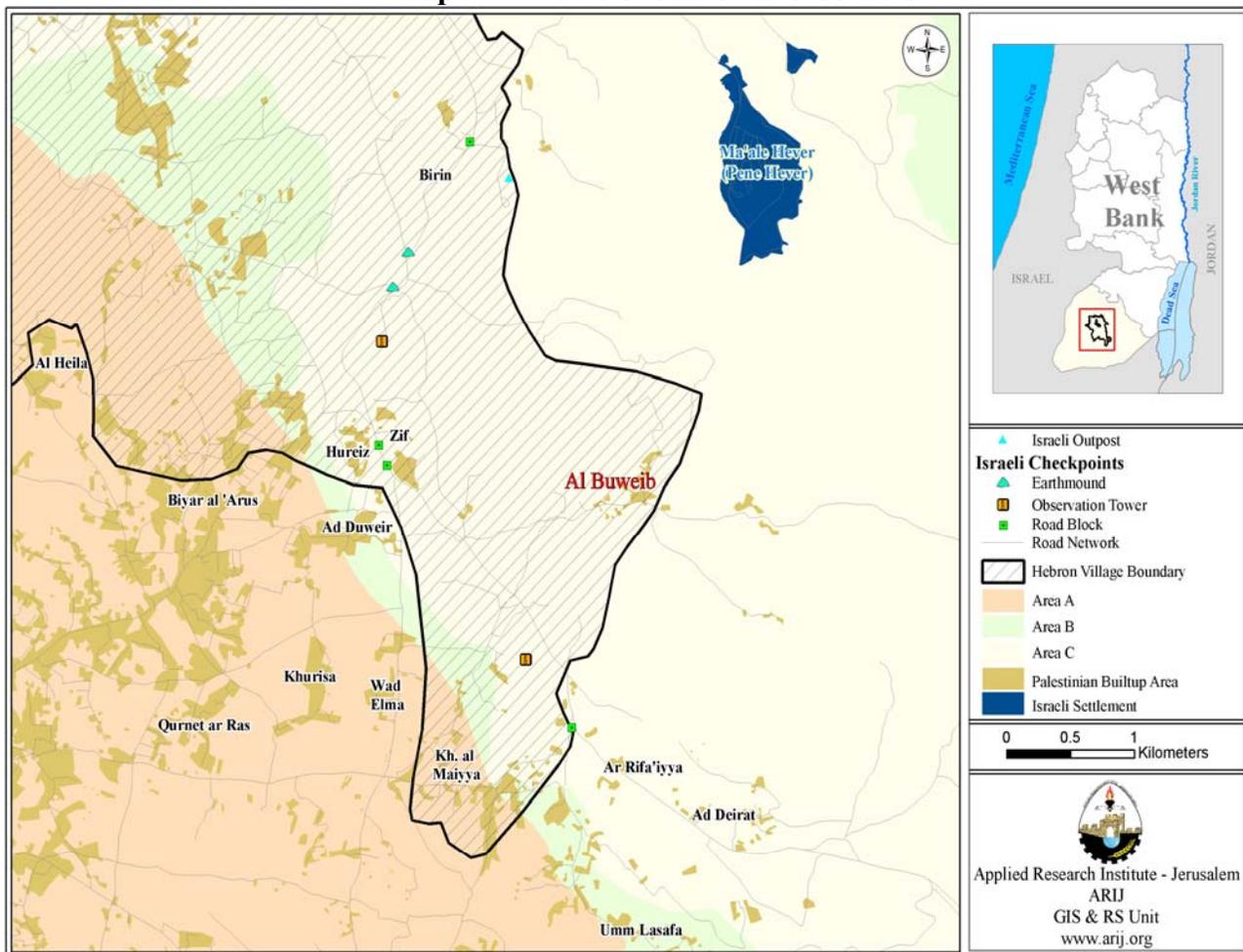
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# Al Buweib Village Profile

## Location and Physical Characteristics

Al Buweib is a Palestinian village in Yatta area; it is located about 10 km south east of Hebron city in the southern part of the West Bank. It is bordered by Badu Al Ka'abna to the east, Bani Na'im village to the north, Zif and Hureiz villages to the west and Ar Rifa'iyya and Ad Deirat villages to the south (See Map 1).

Map 1: Al Buweib location and borders



The total area of Al Buweib village is estimated ar around 800 dunums, of which 150 dunums are Palestinian built-up areas. 300 dunums are agricultural land, and a further 350 dunums are forests and open spaces. The project committee has a master plan for 200 dunums of village lands verified by the Ministry of the Local Government (MOLG).

Al Buweib village lies southeast of Yatta at an elevation of 725 m above Sea level. The mean annual rainfall in Al Buweib village is 369 mm; the average annual temperature is 16°C, and the average annual humidity is 61 % (ARIJ GIS).

Al Buweib village is considered rural as it meets the criteria relevant to rural areas. The village is governed by a Project committee, established in 1995. The project committee currently consists of five members and without any full time employee or building.

The main duties of the committee are provide services to the households in the village such as:

- Infrastructure services such as: electricity and solid waste disposal.
- Built up schools.
- Issuing building licenses;

## **History**

Al Buweib village has along history which dates back to the Roman period. The village is called Al Buweib because it was considered for a long time as a gate (in Arabic "Bab" "باب") to the commercial roads and pilgrimages from north to south of Dead Sea, and over time the word "Bab" was converted to "Al Buweib".

The residents of Al Buweib village originate from the Al Mahayna tribe who migrated from Beit Jebrin to Yatta and Al Buweib, and from the Al Azazmeh tribe who lived in Beer Shaveh. Al Buweib village also includes Khamlet Al Hajer.

**Photo of Al Buweib Village**

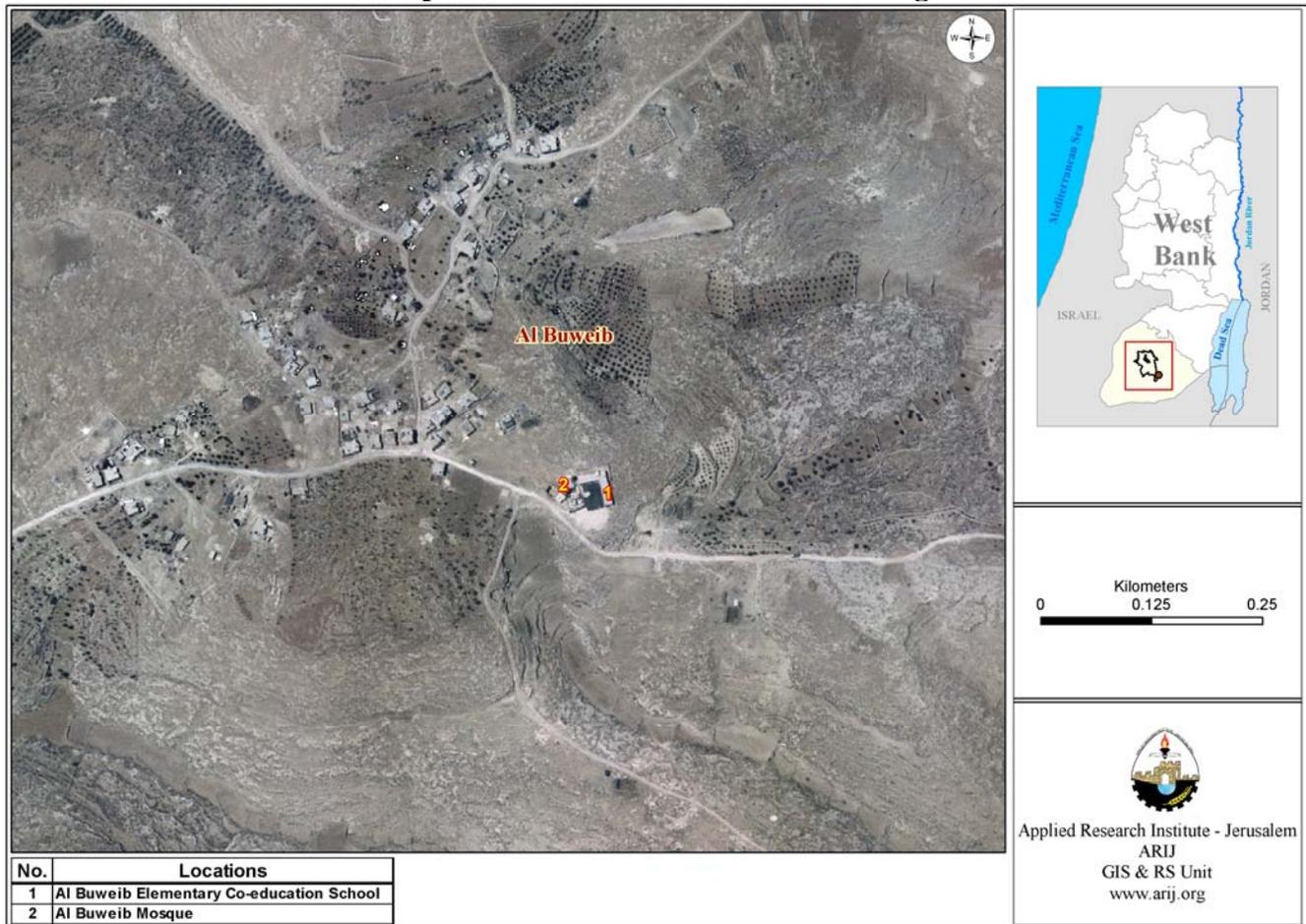


## Religious and Archaeological Sites

There is one mosque serving the village; Al Buweib Al Kabeer mosque. (See map 2). In terms of historical sites, there are a number of historical and archaeological sites in the village including:

- Um Rukbeh Palace: it may be considered as a tourist area because there is a Cave inside it, and there is an olive Press related to the Roman period.
- Khirbt Abu Khashabeh خربة أبو خشبة
- Khirbt Alluwebdeh خربة اللويبة
- Khirbt Alsahneih خربة السّحنية

**Map 2: Main location in Al Buweib village**



## Demography and Population

According to the 2007 Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) Census, the total population of Al Buweib village was 607 inhabitants. Of whom 291 were males and 316 were females. There were 76 households resident in 152 housing units.

## Age Group and Gender

The 2007 Census showed the distribution of Al Buweib village population by age group and sex. Results indicated that the 0-14 year's age group constituted 48.8% of the total population, the 15-64 age group constituting 48.6% of the total population, while people of 65 years of age and above constituted about 2.5% of the total population. The sex ratio in Al Buweib is 92.2 males per 100 females. In terms of percentage, males constituted 48% of the total population

## Families

There are six families in Al Buweib village. These are: Al Da'ajna, Azazma, Abu Quweider, Abu Sninah, Abu Sheghedem, and Al Jama'ein.

## Education

According to the 2007 PCBS, Population, Housing and Establishment Census final results, about 157 persons (10 years and above) were illiterate. Of these 54.8% were females; 16% of the population could read and write but received no schooling; 19.6% had completed elementary education; 12.6% had completed preparatory education; 8.2% had completed secondary education and 3.1% had completed higher education (See table 1).

Sex	Illiterate	Can read & write	Elementary	Preparatory	Secondary	Associate Diploma	Bachelor	Higher Diploma	Master	PhD	Total
<b>M</b>	71	32	35	19	15	-	7	-	-	2	181
<b>F</b>	86	30	41	30	17	1	2	-	-	-	207
<b>T</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>9</b>	-	-	<b>2</b>	<b>388</b>

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

According to the field survey conducted in the village, there is just one co-education school in Al Buweib village supervised by governmental sector. The school is "Al Buweib Elementary Co-education School". (See map 2).

The data also indicated that the school hosted about 111 students, and there are 7 classes and 8 teachers working in the school as in the scholastic year 2006/2007.

Due to the shortage of secondary stage education, the students of Al Buweib village are forced to travel 8 km to reach Al Ruq'aa village or 12 km to reach Yatta city so as to complete their Secondary education.

The educational status in the village is suffering from the following problems:

- Restriction by Israeli checkpoints and the earth mounds on the roads prevent the teachers from reaching the school.
- The lack of classes in the school.
- Lack of a kindergarten.

**Health Status**

There is only one maternity and pediatric centre in the village run by the governmental sector. The village lacks health centers, health clinics and pharmacies. In the event of emergency, residents of Al Buweib travel to Yatta city (12 km from the village) hospitals and health centers. Al Buweib suffers many obstacles and problems in the health status and services including:

- The remoteness of hospitals.
- Shortage in medicine in the clinics.
- Residents are facing difficulty in reaching Yatta village because Israeli soldiers closed off the road connecting Al Buweib and Yatta.

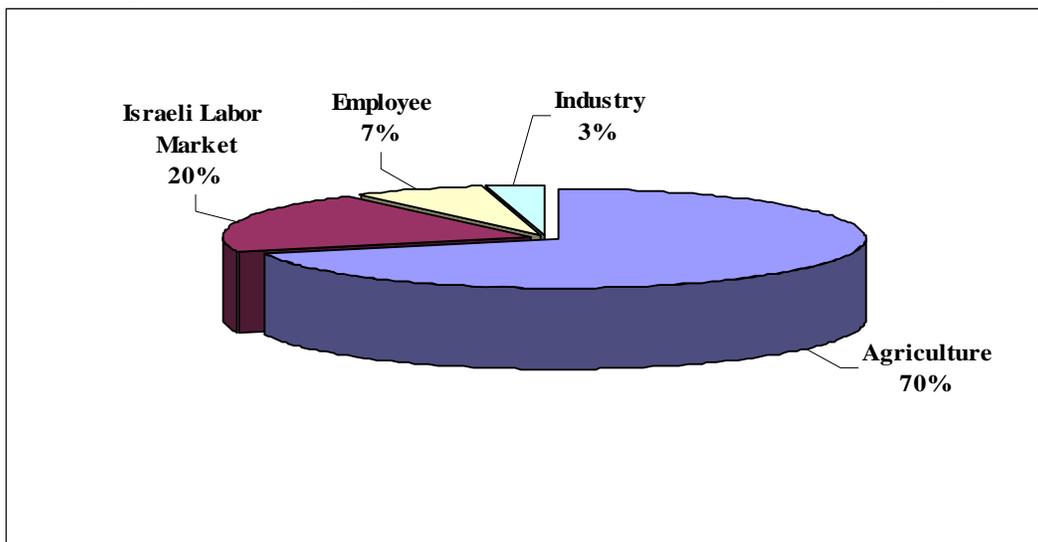
**Economic Activities**

According to Hebron local surveys conducted by ARIJ, Al Buweib residents depend mainly on the agricultural sector. Approximately 70% of the workers in the village are engaged in such activity. In addition, there are also a significant proportion of Al Buweib residents depending on the Israeli labor market (20%). Also, the residents depend on the public and private sector (7%) and the industrial sector (3%). In terms of economic institutions there is only one grocery in the village.

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

- Agricultural Sector (70%)
- The Israeli Labor Market (20%)
- Government or Other Employees (7%)
- Industry Sector (3%) (See figure 1).

**Figure 1: Percentage of economic activities in Al Buweib village**



The survey also indicated that unemployment in Al Buweib village reached 50%, as of 2007, indicating the severity of the economic situation in the village. Data indicated that the most affected of social groups in Al Buweib village as a result of Israeli restrictions during the Second Intifada were: 1) Workers previously worked in the Israeli labor market, 2) Families maintaining 6 individuals or more, 3) Small-holder farmers, 4) Housewives and children.

### Labor Force

According to the 2007 PCBS, Population, Housing and Establishment Census, there were 97 economically active persons in Al Buweib village, of whom 38.1% were employed. Of 291 economically inactive persons in the village, 46.7% were students, 38.8% were housekeeping and 8% were unable to work, see table 2.

Sex	Economically Active				Not Economically Active						Total
	Employed	Currently Unemployed	Unemployment (Never work)	Total	Students	House keeping	Unable to work	Not working & Not looking for Work	Others	Total	
<b>M</b>	36	10	45	91	53	5	22	-	10	90	<b>181</b>
<b>F</b>	1	0	5	6	83	108	9	-	1	201	<b>207</b>
<b>T</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>291</b>	<b>388</b>

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

### Agricultural Sector

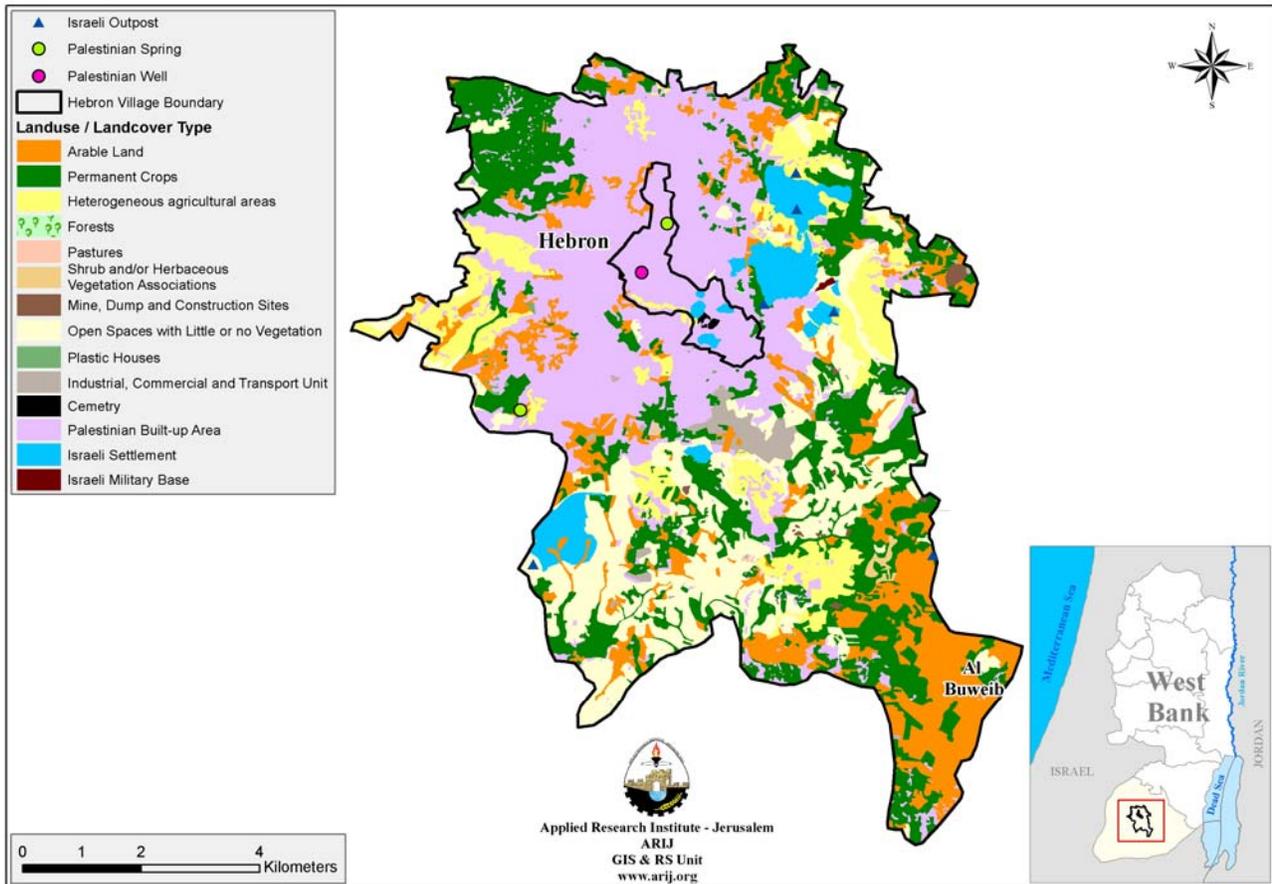
Al Buweib village lies on 850 dunums of land, of which 650 dunums are arable land and only 300 dunums are cultivated. Of the total arable land 350 dunums are unused due to the lack of rainfall, the lack of water, capital and the unfeasibility of agriculture. There are also about 500 dunums needing reclamation. All the residents of Al Buweib village are dependent on agriculture activities.(See map 3).

The main crops cultivated in the village are field crops, olive trees and nuts trees; all the agriculture crops are rain fed crops due to the shortage of water resources for irrigation like springs or water networks.

The Israeli forces have uprooted almost 800 olive trees and 950 nuts trees since the beginning of the second intifada as these crops adjacent to Israeli settlement.

Village officials cite that the agricultural sector in the village is suffering from the following problems: farmers' inability to access their land and their crops due to Israeli settlements, insufficiency of rain and increasing of forages prices.

Map 3: Land use/land cover and Segregation Wall in Al Buweib village



## Institutions and Services

The main institute in the village is the Project committee, established in 1995.

## Infrastructure and Natural Resources

**Telecommunication Services:** Al Buweib village is not yet connected with a telecommunication network.

**Water Services:** Al Buweib village isn't connected to the water network. Cisterns and water tanks provide alternative sources of water. In addition, there are about five springs in the village: Ein Bir Abu Khashaba (بئر أبو خشبة), Ein Um Rukbeh (عين أم ركببة), Ein AlShunar (الشنار), Ein Al Luwbedeh (اللويبة) and Ein Um AL Nawakees (أم النواقيس); the water from these springs and wells is utilized for watering livestock.

Village officials cite the main problem in the village as regarding water status, this includes:

- The high prices of purchased tanks.
- The water pollution in the cisterns.

**Electricity Services:** Al Buweib has not been connected to the national electricity network. It has its own network supplied by local generator with 65 kilowatt capacity, the network constructed and managed by the Project Committee since 1995. Approximately 100% of house units are connected to the local electricity network. Al Buweib is suffering from many problems in electricity services which are:

- The high price of diesel fuel.
- The insufficient of the electricity generation.

**Solid Waste Collection Services:** Solid waste management in Al Buweib is operated by the Project committee by cooperation with Joint Services Council. The solid waste is collected from the residential area by the council vehicle and send to dumping site (Al Dyirat) which operated by Joint Services Council and far from the village about 5 km. Dumping and burning is the main method used to dispose of solid waste.

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

**Transportation Facilities:** The village is served by three informal private cars; otherwise residents have to walk to Zif crossroads (ماتلث زيف) and then to other places by neighboring village taxis. The primary obstacles to transportation in the village are the presence of military road blocks and earth mounds, the lack of main road maintenance and the lack of vehicles and automotive services. In terms of road quality, 5 km of main roads are paved and in bad condition, 15 km of internal roads and 12 km of agricultural roads are unpaved.

## Impact of the Israeli Occupation

Two Israeli settlements are surrounding Al Buweib village, Mao'on settlement to the south and Bani Sever (بني صيفر) to the north. The village is also subjected to one permanent checkpoint and two flying checkpoints and, in addition to that, there is an Israeli bypass road passing through the village. The village suffers environmental problems due to the Israeli settlers who are uprooting the trees and burning plants.

## Development Plans and Projects

Al Buweib Project committee has established a development plan which includes different development projects. Since 2006 the village project committee has implemented many projects funded by outside donors, these projects include:

No.	Project name	Type	Funded by
1	Open Roads	Infrastructure	Union of Agricultural Work Committees+ UNRWA
2	Reclamation of agriculture land	Agriculture	Union of Agricultural Work Committees+ UNRWA
3	Construction cisterns	Agriculture	Union of Agricultural Work Committees+ UNRWA

## Locality Development Priorities and Needs

According to Al Buweib Project committee the village has suffered from a shortage of many infrastructural and service needs. Table 4 below shows the development priorities and needs in the village.

<b>Table 4: Development priorities and needs for Al Buweib village</b>						
No.	Sector	Strongly Needed	Needed	Moderately Needed	Not Needed	Notes
<b>Infrastructural Needs</b>						
1	Opening and Pavement of Roads	*				32 km ^
2	Construction of New Water Networks	*				12 km
3	Rehabilitation of Old Water Networks				*	
4	Construction of Water Reservoirs	*				500 m <sup>3</sup>
5	Extending the Water Network to cover New Built up Areas	*				12 km
6	Construction of Sewage Disposal Network	*				
<b>Health Needs</b>						
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	*				
<b>Educational Needs</b>						
1	Building of New Schools	*				Secondary
2	Rehabilitation of Old Schools	*				
3	Purchasing of New Equipments for Schools	*				
<b>Agriculture Needs</b>						
1	Rehabilitation of Agricultural lands	*				500 dunums
2	Building Cisterns	*				30 cisterns
3	Construction of Barracks for Livestock	*				40 barracks
4	Veterinary Services	*				
5	Seeds and Hay for Animals	*				
6	Rehabilitation of Greenhouses				*	
7	Field Crops Seeds	*				
8	Plants and Agricultural Supplies	*				

^ 5 km. main roads, 15 km. internal roads, and 12 km. agricultural roads

**References:**

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