

# Khirbet Salama and Wadi 'Ubeid Village Profile



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## *Acknowledgments*

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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://vprofile.arij.org/>

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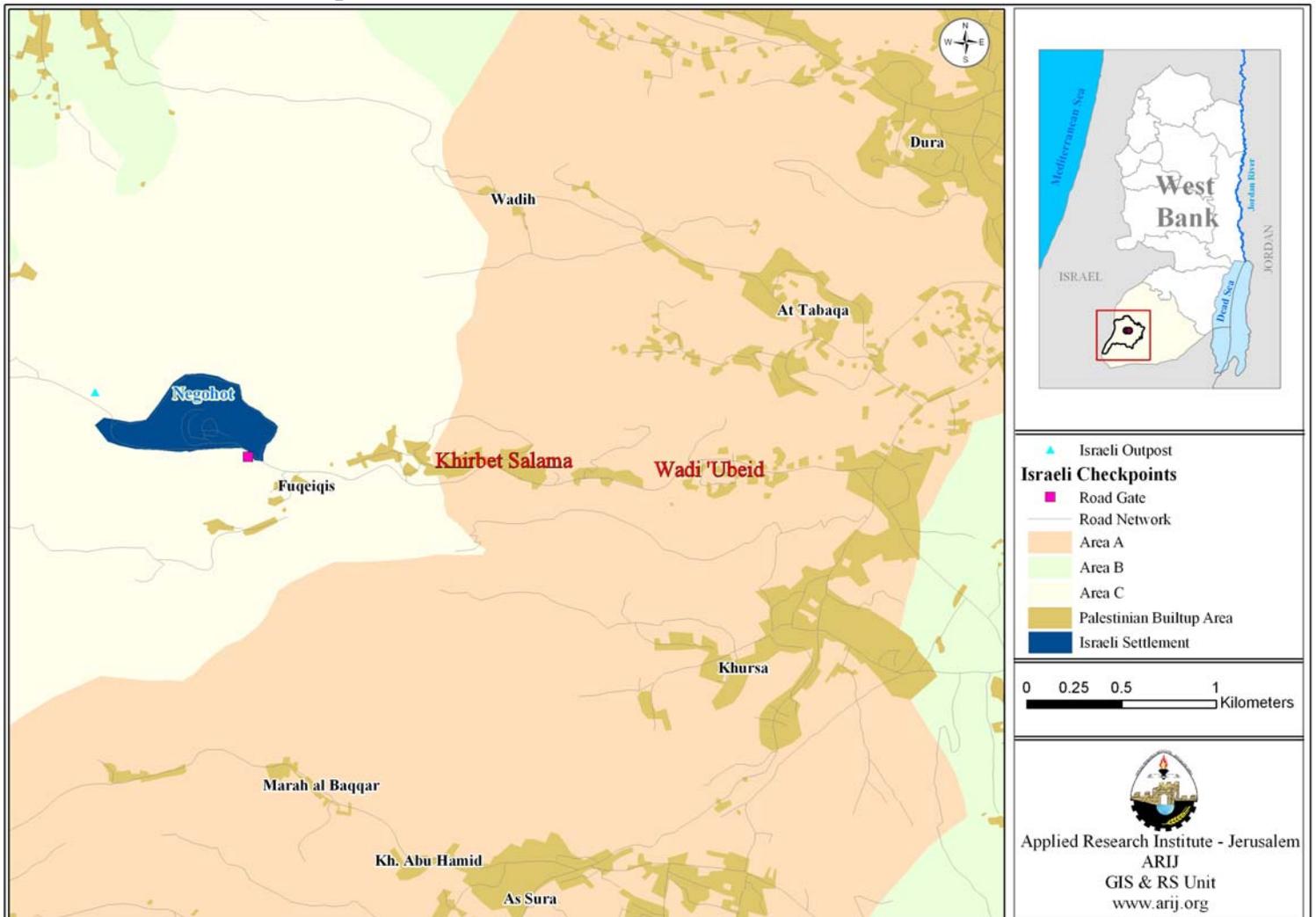
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# *Khirbet Salama and Wadi 'Ubeid Village Profile*

## Location and Physical Characteristics

Khirbet Salama and Wadi 'Ubeid is a Palestinian village in the Dura area in Hebron Governorate, located 20km southwest of the city of Hebron. Khirbet Salama and Wadi 'Ubeid is bordered by Khursa village to the east, At Tabaqa village to the north, As Sura village to the south and Fuqeiqis village to the west (See map 1).

**Map 1: Khirbet Salama and Wadi 'Ubeid location and borders**



Khirbet Salama and Wadi ‘Ubeid village lies on top of a mountain where it overlooks the Palestinian Coast; it is located at an altitude of 726m above Sea level with a mean annual rainfall of 436mm; the average annual temperature is 16 °C, and the average annual humidity is 61% (ARIJ GIS Unit, 2006).

The village is governed by a project committee, which was established in 1994, and consists of three members. The services provided by the committee include; infrastructure services (such as water and electricity), pavement and maintenance of roads, educational services (establishing and rehabilitating of schools), and social and human services.

## **History**

The history of Khirbet Salama and Wadi ‘Ubeid village dates back to 1920. According to one narrative, the village was named after the first head of a family who resided in the village. The village residents originate from the 1948 war villages in addition to neighboring villages.

Khirbet Salama village includes another locality which is Wadi ‘Ubeid village.

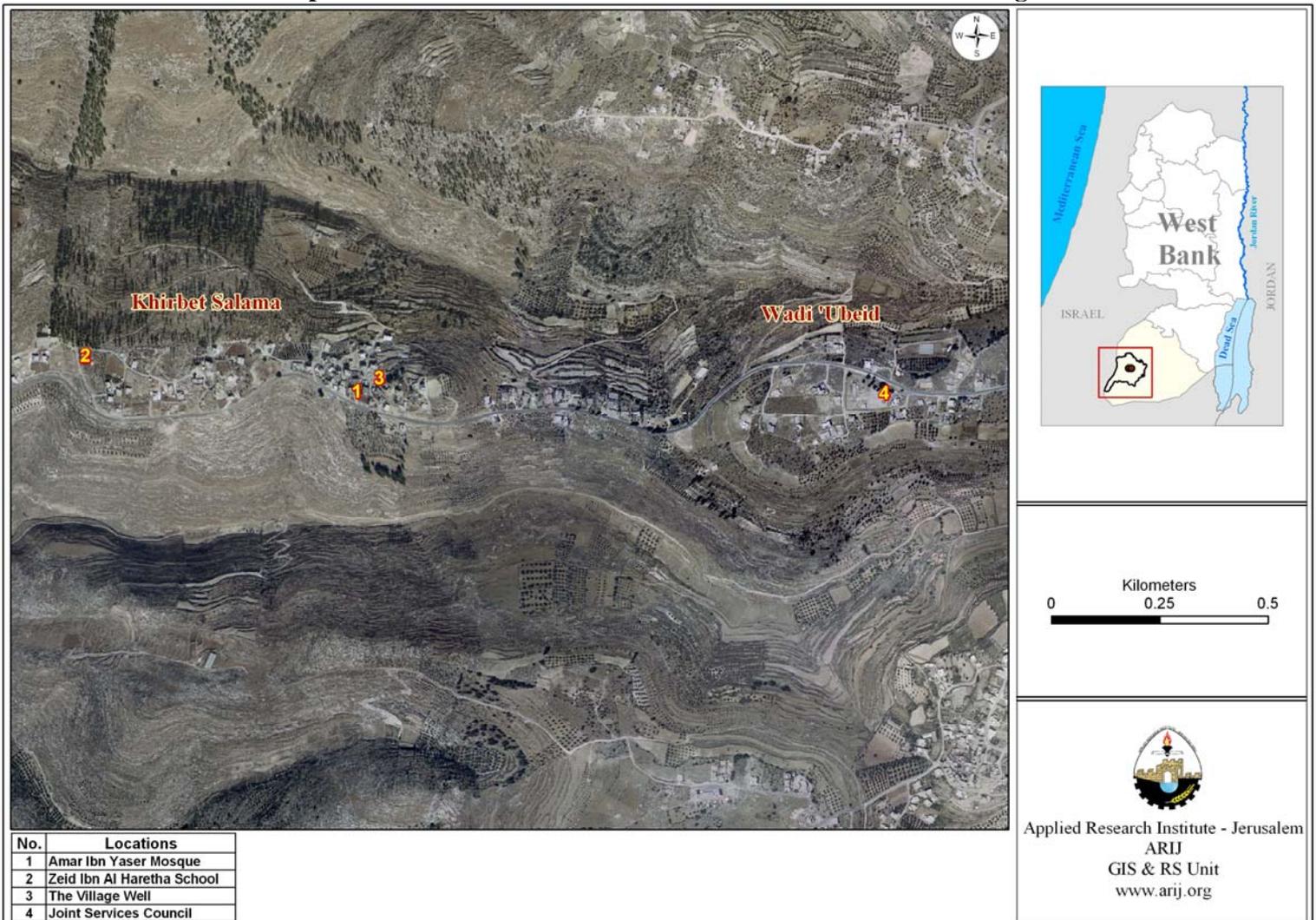
### **Photos of Khirbet Salama and Wadi ‘Ubeid village**



## Religious and Archaeological Sites

There is only one mosque in the village; ‘Ammar Ben Yaser Mosque. The village lacks any other archaeological or historical sites (See map 2).

**Map 2: Main locations in Khirbet Salama and Wadi ‘Ubeid village**



## Population

According to the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS), the total population of Khirbet Salama and Wadi ‘Ubeid village in 2007 was 501 inhabitants; of whom 247 are males and 254 are females (See table 1). There are 85 households in the village living in 83 housing units.

<b>Village</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>	<b>Total</b>
Khirbet Salama	183	188	<b>371</b>
Wadi ‘Ubeid	64	66	<b>130</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>247</b>	<b>254</b>	<b>501</b>

Source: PCBS, 2008. Population, Housing and Establishment Census-2007, Final Results

### Age Group and Gender

The General Census of Population and Housing carried out by PCBS in 2007 showed the distribution of age groups in Khirbet Salama and Wadi ‘Ubeid village is as follows: 38.8% are less than 15 years, 58.3% are between 15 - 64 years, 2.9% are 65 years and older. Data also showed that the sex ratio of males to females in the town is 97.2:100, meaning that males constitute 49.3% of the population, and females constitute 50.7% of the population.

### Families

Khirbet Salama and Wadi ‘Ubeid residents are composed of several families, mainly: Ad Daraweesh, Nassar, ‘Odah, Awlad Muhammad, ‘Amro, As Sweiti, Abu ‘Arqoob, Ad Darabee’, Abu Rahma, Tayeh and Al Atrash.

### Education

According to the results of the PCBS Population, Housing and Establishment Census-2007, the illiteracy rate among Khirbet Salama and Wadi ‘Ubeid population is about 5.7%, of whom 52.4% are females, which is considered a high percentage when compared to males. Of the literate population, 14.7% can read and write, 24% had elementary education, 32.7% had preparatory education, 18.2% had secondary education, and 10.4% completed higher education. Table 2, shows the educational level in the town of Khirbet Salama and Wadi ‘Ubeid, by sex, and educational attainment in 2007.

<b>Sex</b>	<b>Illiterate</b>	<b>Can read &amp; write</b>	<b>Elementary</b>	<b>Preparatory</b>	<b>Secondary</b>	<b>Associate Diploma</b>	<b>Bachelor</b>	<b>Higher Diploma</b>	<b>Master</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>M</b>	10	21	37	61	33	8	10	0	0	<b>180</b>
<b>F</b>	11	30	46	52	30	2	14	1	1	<b>187</b>
<b>T</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>367</b>

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

In regards to the basic and secondary education institutions and schools in Khirbet Salama and Wadi ‘Ubeid, there is one elementary school serving the village; “Zaid Ben al Haretha Elementary Co-education School”. The school is supervised by the Palestinian Ministry of

Higher Education (MOHE). There is also one private kindergarten in the village; Ash Shaheed Abu ‘Ammar Kindergarten, which has a total of 30 children (See map 2).

According to the Ministry of Higher Education statistics for 2008/2009, there are 207 students, 6 classes and 18 teachers.

The students in Khirbet Salama and Wadi ‘Ubeid village are forced to travel 5km to reach Dura city or 25km to Al ‘Arrub Agricultural school in order to complete their secondary education.

The educational sector in the village suffers from several problems, including:

1. The lack of females’ school in the village.
2. The lack of labs and libraries in the existing school.
3. The lack of a playground or an activity hall in the existing school.

## **Health Status**

Khirbet Salama and Wadi ‘Ubeid village lacks health services; there are no clinics or health centers, no ambulances or pharmacies., however, there is only a single maternity and pediatric center supervised by the Palestinian Ministry of Health (MOH). The village officials state that Khirbet Salama and Wadi ‘Ubeid residents are suffering from a lack of health centers and are forced to travel 15km or 5km to access Hebron or Dura hospitals and health centers.

The health sector in Khirbet Salama and Wadi ‘Ubeid village suffers from several problems, including:

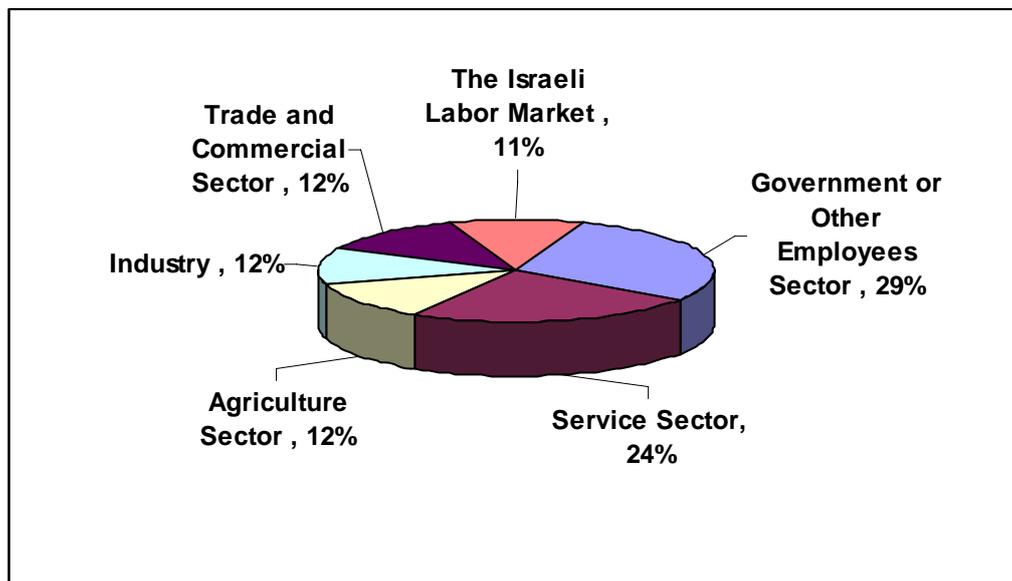
1. The lack of a qualified medical clinic.
2. The very few visits of health doctors to the maternity and pediatric clinic.
3. The lack of qualified nurses in the clinic.

## **Economic Activities**

The results of a field survey for the distribution of labor by economic activity in Khirbet Salama and Wadi ‘Ubeid show the following:

- Government or Other Employees Sector (29%).
- Services Sector (24%).
- Agriculture Sector (12%).
- Industry (12%).
- Trade and Commercial Sector (12%).
- The Israeli Labor Market (11%).

**Figure 1: Percentage of economic activity in Khirbet Salama and Wadi ‘Ubeid village**



There are no economic or industrial activities in Khirbet Salama and Wadi ‘Ubeid village; there are only 4 small grocery stores, thus, the village residents are forced to travel to Dura city in order to buy their needs.

The unemployment rate in Khirbet Salama and Wadi ‘Ubeid village has reached 15%, and the economical groups most affected by the Israeli restrictions during the Second Intifada were:

- 1) Workers in the agriculture sector.
- 2) Workers in the trade sector.
- 3) Former workers in Israel.

### Labor Force

According to PCBS Census (2007), 31.3% of the populations of Khirbet Salama and Wadi ‘Ubeid were economically active; of whom 83.5% were employed, while 68.7% were not economically active; of whom 57.5% were students, 30.6% were housekeepers and 11.9% were unable to work for a multitude of reasons (See table 3).

Sex	Economically Active				Not Economically Active						Total
	Employed	Unemployed	Unemployed (Never work)	Total	Student	House keeper	Unable to work	Not working & Not looking for Work	Others	Total	
<b>M</b>	77	10	3	<b>90</b>	67	0	18	2	3	<b>90</b>	<b>180</b>
<b>F</b>	19	0	6	<b>25</b>	78	77	6	0	1	<b>162</b>	<b>187</b>
<b>T</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>252</b>	<b>367</b>

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

### Agricultural Sector

Khirbet Salama and Wadi ‘Ubeid village lies on a total area of 2,000 dunums, of which 140 dunums are built-up area, 955 dunums are arable land and 570 dunums are open spaces and rangeland (See table 4 and map 3).

Total Area	Arable Land		Build up Area	Forests Area	Open Spaces and Rangelands
	Cultivated Area	Uncultivated Area			
2,000	785	170	140	170	570

Source: Palestinian Ministry of Agricultural (MoA), 2006

**Map 3: Land use/ land cover and the Segregation Wall in Khirbet Salama and Wadi ‘Ubeid village**

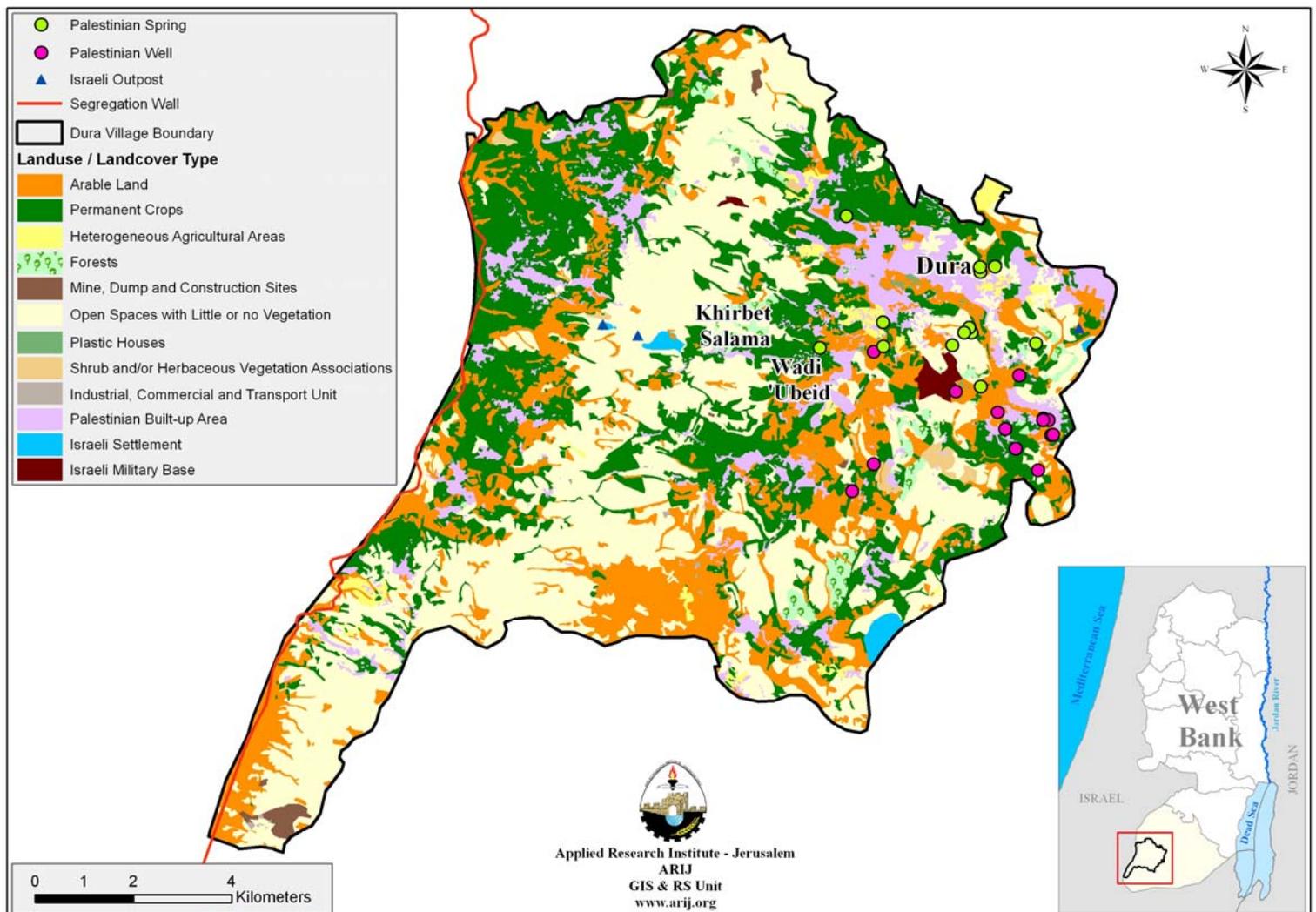


Table 5 shows the different types of rain-fed and irrigated open cultivated vegetables in the Khirbet Salama and Wadi ‘Ubeid village. The rain-fed fruity vegetables are the most cultivated with an area of about 42 dunums. The most commonly cultivated vegetables within the area are: squash, tomato and snake-cucumber (See table 5).

Fruity Vegetables		Leafy Vegetable		Green Legumes		Bulbs		Other Vegetables		Total of Rain-Fed and irrigated open vegetables	
RF	Irr.	RF	Irr.	RF	Irr.	RF	Irr.	RF	Irr.	RF	Irr.
42	0	0	4	2	0	0	4	3	5	47	13

RF: Rain-fed, IRR: Irrigated

There are also 3 types of aromatic medical plants in the village of Khirbet Salama and Wadi ‘Ubeid planted in a total area of about 5 dunums. These plants are thyme, camomile and sage.

In the village of Khirbet Salama and Wadi ‘Ubeid, there is a total area of 393 dunums olive tree plantations. Other trees planted in the area include almond trees, fig trees and grape vines (See table 6).

Olives		Citrus		Stone-Fruits		Pome Fruits		Nuts		Other Fruits		Total of fruitful and olive trees	
RF	Irr.	RF	Irr.	RF	Irr.	RF	Irr.	RF	Irr.	RF	Irr.	RF	Irr.
393	0	0	1	29	0	4	0	34	0	89	0	545	1

RF: Rain-fed, IRR: Irrigated

Table 7 shows the total field crops cultivated in the village of Khirbet Salama and Wadi ‘Ubeid. Cereals (in particular wheat and barley) are the most commonly cultivated crops with an area of about 90 dunums. In addition, the cultivation of forage crops such as vetch is prevalent in the village of Khirbet Salama and Wadi ‘Ubeid.

Cereals		Bulbs		Dry Legumes		Seeds		Forage Crops		Stimulating Crops		Total Field Crops	
RF	Irr	RF	Irr	RF	Irr	RF	Irr	RF	Irr	RF	Irr	RF	Irr
90	0	1	0	24	0	1	0	56	0	0	0	172	0

RF: Rain-fed, IRR: Irrigated

The field survey shows that most of the residents in Khirbet Salama and Wadi ‘Ubeid are rearing and keeping domestic animals such as sheep, goats, chickens and bees (See Table 8).

<b>Cows*</b>	<b>Sheep</b>	<b>Goats</b>	<b>Donkeys &amp; Mules</b>	<b>Broiler Chickens</b>	<b>Bee Hives</b>
7	200	160	14	95,700	121

\*Including cows, bull calves, heifer calves and bulls

The main source of water for irrigation in the village is the rainwater collection cisterns. The total length of the agricultural roads in the village is 4km. These roads are unpaved and are only suitable for tractors and other agricultural machines.

The agriculture sector in the village suffers severely from the Israeli activities, and the lack of capital and water resources.

## **Institutions and Services**

The main institution in the village is the project committee, which was founded in 1994.

## **Natural Resources and Infrastructure Services**

**Telecommunication Services:** Khirbet Salama and Wadi ‘Ubeid village is connected to a telecommunication network; about 90% of the housing units are currently connected to the network.

**Water Services:** Khirbet Salama and Wadi ‘Ubeid village is not connected to any water network. The alternative resources of water in the village are mainly the rainwater harvesting cisterns. The village suffers from several obstacles that face the village water resources, including water shortage and pollution of the wells’ water, as it is collected from the rainwater falling on surrounding lands.

**Electricity Services:** Since 1988, Khirbet Salama and Wadi ‘Ubeid village has been connected to an electricity network provided by the Dura municipality. Approximately, 95% of the housing units are currently connected to the network. However, the major problem with the electricity network is the weak electricity currents as a result of the distance from the electricity generator.

**Sanitation:** The village is not connected to any sewage disposal network, thus, the waste water is disposed of in cesspits.

**Solid Waste Collection Services:** The Joint Services Council is considered the official body responsible for managing solid waste, i.e. solid waste collection and disposal. Due to the fact that the process of solid waste management is costly, a monthly fee has been charged on the population, serviced by domestic solid waste collection and transportation services, which is about 15 NIS/month

**Transportation Services:** Khirbet Salama and Wadi ‘Ubeid village has an informal transportation network composed of three private cars. The primary obstacles in transportation in the village are; the presence of military road blocks and earth mounds, the lack of well maintained main roads, and the lack of vehicles and automotive services. In terms of road qualities; there is 1km of main roads that are paved but in bad condition and 0.5km of main roads that are unpaved.

## **Impact of the Israeli Occupation**

To the north of Khirbet Salama and Wadi ‘Ubeid village, there is an Israeli settlement named “Nijohet”. The total area of the settlement is approximately 200 dunums and is connected with a bypass road. The village is also subjected to one permanent checkpoint, flying checkpoints, and one metal gate hindering movement.

Since the beginning of the Second Intifada, the Israeli Occupation Forces have razed 500 dunums of lands and confiscated 100 dunums of lands in Khirbet Salama and Wadi ‘Ubeid village. The Israeli Occupation Forces have also uprooted 300 olive trees, 50 stone-fruit trees and 50 grape vines.

Moreover, the village suffers from wastewater flowing on its lands from the Israeli settlements, causing the spread of diseases, mosquitoes and other harmful insects, in addition to the spread of bad odors.

## **Development Plans and Projects**

Khirbet Salama and Wadi ‘Ubeid projects’ committee pointed out that since 2004, only one project was implemented in the village, which is the (Hydrologists) sheep project. The project was funded by the Islamic Bank and was implemented in 2008 (Khirbet Salama and Wadi ‘Ubeid Projects’ Committee, 2010).

## Locality Development Priorities and Needs

According to Khirbet Salama and Wadi 'Ubeid projects committee, the village suffers from a significant shortage of infrastructure and services. Table 9 shows the development priorities and needs in the village.

No.	Sector	Strongly Needed	Needed	Not a Priority	Notes
<b>Infrastructural Needs</b>					
1	Opening and Pavement of Roads	*			6km*
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		*		10 (one spring and 9 wells)
6	Construction of Water Reservoirs	*			
7	Construction of a Sewage Disposal Network	*			
8	Construction of a New Electricity Network	*			
9	Providing Containers for Solid Waste Collection		*		
10	Providing Vehicles for Collecting Solid Waste		*		
11	Providing a Sanitary Landfill			*	
<b>Health Needs</b>					
1	Building of New Clinics or Health Care Centres	*			1
2	Rehabilitation of Old Clinics or Health Care Centres			*	
3	Purchasing of Medical Equipment and Tools			*	
<b>Educational Needs</b>					
1	Building of New Schools	*			elementary for females
2	Rehabilitation of Old Schools			*	
3	Purchasing of New Equipment for Schools	*			
<b>Agriculture Needs</b>					
1	Rehabilitation of Agricultural Lands	*			100 dunums
2	Building Rainwater Harvesting Cisterns	*			15 cistern
3	Construction of Barracks for Livestock	*			3 barracks
4	Veterinary Services		*		
5	Seeds and Hay for Animals	*			
6	Construction of New Greenhouses		*		10 greenhouses
7	Rehabilitation of Greenhouses		*		1 greenhouse
8	Field Crops Seeds		*		
9	Plants and Agricultural Supplies	*			

\*0.5km is a main road, 1.5km internal road and 4km agricultural road

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